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TIMES

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Crying Baku crowds defy Soviet troops

Bodies lie in streets as snipers go on firing

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

Sporadic fighting erupted yesterday in Baku as the Azerbaijani parliament met in urgent session to discuss the military clampdown on the city, which has left more than 60 dead and up to 400 wounded.

With thousands of weeping and chanting demonstrators defying the state of emergency and gathering outside the republic's Supreme Soviet, deputies denounced the bloodshed, and demanded that Moscow withdraw the army.

Reports reaching here suggested the republic was in a state of virtual insurrection, with anger taking an ominously anti-Russian tone. Snipers were firing on Soviet troops in Baku, and several bodies were still lying in the streets.

Nakhichevan, the Azerbaijani enclave wedged between Armenia and Iran,

declared its secession from the Soviet Union at the weekend and its intention to set up an independent Islamic republic.

So far Moscow has not announced what steps will be taken to confront this challenge but Iran quoted local

About 100,000 Ukrainians formed a 300-mile human chain from Kiev to Lvov yesterday to commemorate the short-lived independence of Ukraine in 1918. It appeared to be the greatest show of strength so far for the popular movement Rukh. Page 8

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residents as saying Soviet troops were fighting against nationalists. In Baku, nationalists announced a campaign of civil disobedience, and were said to be harassing the troops, who smashed their way through the road blocks on Friday night.

At the port, a crowd threatened to blow up a tanker if troops were not pulled back, Tass reported. The agency said they were dispersed.

Soviet reporters in Baku, who appeared shaken and angered by the shooting, gave frank and grim accounts of crushed cars, shattered windows and mangled corpses, run over by tanks and armoured personnel carriers. But some of the dispatches, made available to *The Times*, were not printed in Moscow papers.

Black flags flew from city buildings and the radio broadcast solemn music yesterday. A mass burial ceremony will take place today in the main square.

A spokesman for the Popular Front, the nationalist organization said to be in virtual control of most of Azerbaijan, claimed that up to 600 people had been killed. Official figures said nine soldiers were killed and 35 wounded.

The event has shaken the Soviet Union, with anxious Muscovites asking whether Azerbaijan will become a new Afghanistan. Many people are concerned that the army intervention will be condemned by the West, and there was palpable relief at the understanding so far shown by the US and the European Community. However, Mr Boris Yeltsin, the maverick member

of the Congress of People's Deputies, who is in Tokyo, denounced the army's actions, and predicted that President Gorbachev would soon be toppled.

Mr Gorbachev, reeling under the shock of the greatest civil unrest since the establishment of Soviet power in central Asia in the 1920s, delivered a grim warning on Saturday that the situation could not go on.

He appealed in a national television address to both sides to show wisdom and reason, and expressed condolences to the families of those killed. But he said both the Azerbaijani and Armenian party leaders had not lived up to their duties, failed to curb extremists and had inflamed the situation.

Mr Abdul-Rahman Vazirov, the Azerbaijani party leader, was peremptorily dismissed on Saturday. He and other local leaders fled Baku before the army assault. Mrs Elmira Kafarova, president of the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet, denounced the army attack as a violation of the republic's sovereignty.

Other local leaders were summoned to Moscow for crisis talks. In Nakhichevan, reports from Iran said there was a total blackout in the main city.

In other southern cities the Popular Front took over control from communist officials. A report for *Komsomolskaya Pravda* whose unused dispatches were given to *The Times* said the former communist leaders in Lencoran, near the border, were sitting around in tea houses, waiting for the call to return to power.

The situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, the hilly Azerbaijani area claimed by Armenia and the cause of the past two years' tension, was also said to be grave yesterday. The area was under virtual siege from Azerbaijani forces surrounding it, with no transport, frequent road blocks, and mass meetings in defiance of the state of emergency.

President Gorbachev appeared to lay most of the blame for the latest intensification of violence on the Azerbaijanis. "Neither side listens to the voice of reason," he said. "This situation was used by anti-Soviet and anti-social forces to further generate enmity and worsen the conflict." He described the events in Baku, including the pogroms against Armenians, as "particularly tragic".

£500m defence orders for GEC and BAE

By Our City Staff

Malaysia and Britain have signed defence contracts awarding GEC and British Aerospace business worth about £500million each.

Sources in the British defence industry and the Malaysian Government have confirmed that the contracts were signed in September and work has commenced. GEC and BAE, the joint prime contractors, have been asked not

to comment by the Malaysian Government.

The Soviet airline Aeroflot is expected this week to order five Airbus A310 twin-engine passenger jets. The order comes as Aeroflot is faced with a backlog of 777 orders waiting to get on to the final assembly line at Toulouse, caused partly by a strike at British Aerospace.

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McEnroe throws a tantrum and a racket



Flashpoint: John McEnroe hurling down his racket in Melbourne yesterday; he went on to swear at officials and was banned.

Big fine and ban for abuse

From Andrew Longmore
Tennis Correspondent
Melbourne

John McEnroe's stormy past finally caught up with him at the Australian Open tennis championships yesterday.

McEnroe was banished from the tournament by umpire Gerry Armstrong, of Britain, during his fourth-round match against Mikael Pernfors after a volley of abuse aimed at the umpire, the grand slam supervisor and the referee.

McEnroe, the three-time Wimbledon champion, was also fined a total of \$6,500. It is the first time since 1963 that a player has been disqualified in a grand slam tournament.

"It was the worst case of verbal abuse ever directed at me in my 14 years on the circuit," Ken Farrow, the international Tennis Federation tournament supervisor, said. "There is no question in my mind that this was the right decision. It's very sad when a player gets defaulted; it's bad for the image of the game and it doesn't help anything, but action had to be taken."

McEnroe said: "I guess it was bound to happen. I don't feel good about it but I can't say that I'm totally surprised. It's not like everyone heard what I said. It was between me and two people, so I think the default was unnecessary. They could have let me off."

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Alternative to the community charge

Labour prepares property tax in secret

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Labour Party is preparing to unveil plans to abolish the community charge and replace it with a property tax levied according to people's ability to pay.

The proposals, being drawn up in secret, will be designed to underline the alleged unfairness of the Government's poll tax system which is levied regardless of wealth and the value of a home.

Under the plans, local authorities would levy a tax from their current ratepayers based on the capital value of their homes.

The bills will be adjusted to take account of the income of the people living in the homes before they are sent out.

Although no decision has yet been taken by party leaders, the Inland Revenue, which is already responsible for property valuations, could under Labour be given the massive new responsibility of adjusting property tax bills to take account of the income of households.

Labour wants people to know when they receive their bills what they will pay, instead of having to apply for rebates. It is looking for a simpler system under which the deductions from the bill are made automatically.

Labour's proposal is being drafted by Mr Bryan Gould, its chief environment spokesman, and Mr David Blunkett,

the front bench spokesman on local government and former chairman of Sheffield Council. The intention is to abolish the community charge within the early years of a Labour

Whitehall estimates 2

government. Mr Gould will outline Labour's stance at the party's local government conference in Cardiff next month.

Party leaders emphasize the proposal will only be an outline, to enable Labour to meet the Conservative accusation that it has no alternative, and that there will have to be much further work on detail and administration before a plan is put to the party

conference in the summer. Labour will continue to concentrate its poll tax campaign fire on attacking the community charge.

Under the plans, Labour would also scrap the Government's new centrally fixed uniform business rate, putting local authorities in charge of levying local firms.

Labour's plan is a development of the proposal, drawn up under Dr John Cunningham, the former environment spokesman, for a property tax combined with a local income tax, which was lambasted by the Tories as Labour's "two-tax" plan.

Informed sources say its new proposal retains the best

and fairest elements of the former plan and of the rating system as it operated before property prices spiralled.

"Now we need a system which will prevent the retired elderly person whose property value has gone up over the years having to pay precisely the same as the person next door who earns £50,000," a source said. The proposals will include the possibility of people living in large shared households receiving separate bills based on a proportion of the value of the property.

The proposals come as Labour enters a campaigning phase of attacking the Government and projecting its own policies.

Moves to support Field reopen war with Militant

By Our Chief Political Correspondent

The Labour Party's long-running war with the Militant Tendency will be reopened today as Mr Frank Field is granted his demand for a fresh investigation into its activities and secures an important boost in his campaign to save his parliamentary career.

After a weekend studying Mr Field's 150-page dossier alleging irregularities in his selection as the party candidate for Birkenhead, on Merseyside, Labour leaders meeting in London are expected to "freeze" the selection of Mr Paul Davies, the man who ousted him on December 8. They are also expected to order an inquiry into the way Mr Field lost his seat and into Militant infiltration in Birkenhead, and the neighbouring seat of Wallasey.

Mr Field's dossier, described as "highly damaging" by



Mr Field: Demand for fresh inquiry granted by Labour.

a senior executive member yesterday, is felt by party officials to provide the "hard evidence" needed to back his claim that Mr Neil Kinnock's democratic writ, which runs throughout the rest of the party, does not yet extend to the Wirral.

It alleges that around a

dozen supporters of Militant have infiltrated the local party, meaning that they were directly involved in the selection process.

Today's meeting of the Labour organization committee is therefore expected to back the confidential recommendation by Mrs Joyce Gould, Labour's director of organization, for a swift investigation, which she will head over the next month.

Mrs Gould and other senior party officials will travel to Birkenhead to interview local party and union figures, with the aim of presenting a speedy report to next month's meeting of the national executive.

The decision, to be confirmed by the full national executive on Wednesday, will mean that Labour will once again be plunged into an unwelcome internal battle.

The Militant Tendency, anticipating today's decision, Continued on page 20, col 1

Roses bloom and buds burst as winter sleeps

By Robin Young

It is in danger of entering the record books as the winter that never was. If the weather continues as it has been lately, weather recorders say, this will be the least wintry winter since the mid-17th century.

The first daffodils are not only out, but already over, while in parks purple and yellow crocuses are blooming weeks ahead of time. Songbirds and pigeons, if not already sitting, are busy hauling nesting materials into bushes and trees where catkins and buds are prematurely bursting.

In London some window boxes have summer bedding plants such as lobelia and antirrhinums still in bloom. From grow-bags in one roof

garden in Bloomsbury, a keen horticulturist is still gathering outdoor tomatoes.

An unseasonal plague of caterpillars has been feasting on garden greenery in Surrey, while ladybirds have been interrupting what seems to have been

Forecast details 20

an unnecessary hibernation to eat aphids infesting rose trees which have yet to stop flowering.

The mean temperature for January so far has been more than 3C (44F) above the seasonal norm in most of Britain. In London and south-east England, according to the London Weather Centre, the extra degrees of warmth averaged 3.9C (5.8F) in the

second week of January and 2.9C (4.3F) in the third.

Scotland last week was even balmer compared with the seasonal average, with mean temperatures 3.5C (5.2F) higher than normal.

The forecasters do not expect any sudden cold snap to end the weather's winter reverie, in which Birmingham and Manchester have been warmer than holiday destinations such as Nice on the Côte d'Azur or Dubrovnik on the Adriatic.

Yesterday was exceptionally mild, with Britain warmer than many places in Italy or Spain, and today is expected to be scarcely less kind.

There is a possibility of colder weather and winds from the North, though, toward the end of the week,

when there may be snow showers in the north and severe night frosts even in the South.

Yesterday 80 dinghy sailors had to be rescued when nearly 100 boats sank when high winds hit a boat race on the Solent.

More than 20 rescue craft including the Gosport lifeboat were called in to join the rescue operation in 27-knot winds and rough seas. The organizers of the race, known as the "Pompey Perisher" because it is supposed to go ahead in all weathers, said there were no casualties and claimed to have had ample rescue cover.

However, coastguards said the windy conditions had made the seas "quite unsuitable" for small boats and inexperienced sailors.

INSIDE

Grime fighters

● Britain has the reputation of being Europe's dirtiest nation. Private contractors are being used increasingly to clean up our streets, but they claim council politics are standing in their way. Page 11

Portfolio

PLATINUM

● Two readers shared the accumulated weekly prize of £12,000 on Saturday. Today's chance to win £2,000. Page 29

Too late to halt cow disease

The cattle disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, could have been prevented, according to the Government's chief veterinary officer.

An earlier ban on feeding cattle products derived from sheep, which have scrapie, a closely-related disease, would have avoided the present epidemic, Mr Keith Meldrum says in an interview with *The Times*. Page 7

Haughey hint

The Anglo-Irish agreement could be replaced provided an alternative arrangement was found that was acceptable to the concerned parties, Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, indicated in Dublin yesterday. Page 2

Rugby ban

Kevin Mosesley, the Wales forward sent off against France at Cardiff on Saturday, was banned yesterday from playing rugby union for seven months. Page 40

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Huge drugs load seized in raid

Armed police and customs officers seized cannabis worth up to £4 million during a raid on a unit at Eastbury Road on the London Industrial Estate, Beckton, east London, last night.

"They saw a 40ft container lorry reverse into the premises and about 45 minutes later they raided the building while the suspects were in the process of unloading cannabis from the false floor of the container," a spokesman said. "The officers recovered cannabis of up to one tonne with a street value of £2.4 million." He added that there had been no struggle, no-one was injured and no shots were fired. About 40 officers were involved.

"Three men were arrested, two were British, aged 33 and 34, and another is believed to be Greek in origin," police said.

The seizure was the result of a joint police and customs operation lasting several weeks. It is believed the lorry travelled from Spain, through France and across the Channel to Britain.

Plea for kidnap baby

The grandmother of Alexandra Griffiths, kidnapped from St Thomas's Hospital, London, 11 days ago, prayed in church yesterday for the return of the grandchild she has never seen.

Mrs Barbara Griffiths arrived at the hospital 30 minutes after the baby was taken by a bogus health visitor. She joined the 12-strong congregation of her local church, St Cuthbert's, Marton, Middlesbrough, where prayers were said for Alexandra and the woman who took her. The Rev Gordon Fisher begged the kidnapper to return the baby to her parents, Miss Dawn Griffiths and Mr Geoffrey Harris.

Mayday call 'a hoax'

An international search operation for 10 people adrift in a lifeboat in the Atlantic may have been caused by a hoax call, coastguards at Falmouth, Cornwall, said yesterday. Radio hams in the United States and Britain picked up a Mayday saying Armin Rose, the Spanish registered vessel, was taking in water 220 miles south west of Land's End. An RAF long-range Nimrod aircraft, two Royal Navy helicopters and merchant ships were involved in the search.

Man, 112, joins protest

Britain's oldest man has joined a battle to prove a disputed footpath is public by recalling country walks along it more than 100 years ago (Ruth Gledhill writes). Mr John Evans, aged 112, said that the path in West Glamorgan linking Fforest-fach, close to where he lives, and Gwerton had always been open to the public. He has made a statement which will be used as evidence at an inquiry. He remembers using it as a short cut when he was a boy and later in his life.

Portuguese air delays

Flights to and from Portugal and the Canary Islands were delayed yesterday by a continuing pay strike by Portuguese air traffic controllers (Robin Young writes). Worst affected was Gatwick airport, where six of yesterday's flights were delayed between four and six hours and one by 13½ hours. A Novair flight to Fuzhou which should have left at 9am on Saturday did not depart from Gatwick until 2pm yesterday. Passengers stayed in a hotel overnight.

Theatre finds sponsor

Mr Jeffrey Archer, the author, yesterday announced the first commercial sponsorship of a theatre in London's West End. The Playhouse Theatre in Northumberland Avenue, which he part-owns, will receive £500,000 over the next three years from the MI Group, a finance investment company. Mr Archer said the sponsors would take no part in the artistic direction. The theatre will be called the MI Playhouse and the firm will be able to use vacant nights for conferences.

Stalker silent on 'conspiracy' paper

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Correspondent

Mr John Stalker, the former deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester, kept his silence yesterday as ministers waited to see the document he claims shows that senior civil servants orchestrated his downfall.

Yesterday MPs, including Mr Merlyn Rees, the former Labour Home Secretary and Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, urged the Government to hold an inquiry to clear the air into what Mr Rees thought might prove to be less a conspiracy than a "cock-up".

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, has ruled out a judicial inquiry, but was quoted yesterday as saying that if Mr Stalker handed over the document, inquiries would be made into its significance.

Mr Stalker has said he will only hand the document to "someone with access to and authority from the Cabinet".

Mr Stalker claims the document, said to be the minutes of a meeting involving senior civil servants, reveals that

they engineered his removal in 1986 from an investigation into an alleged shoot-to-kill policy operated by the Royal Ulster Constabulary. He was subsequently the subject of allegations involving his association with a northern businessman, Mr Kevin Taylor, but was later cleared after an investigation involving West Yorkshire police.

He revealed the existence of the document last week after Mr Taylor was cleared of a fraud charge.

The participants in the alleged meeting are referred to only by their initials; and the paper, Mr Stalker says, indicates a "crude political decision above that of chief police officer" to get rid of him. So far he has not revealed the date when he believes the meeting took place or the venue.

It is known that Mr Stalker was removed from the investigation after his position at the head of the shoot-to-kill inquiry was discussed by senior officers meeting in Scarborough in May 1986.

Poll tax likely to exceed Whitehall estimates

By David Walker

Councils in England will this week prepare to send out 35 million community charge demands between late March and mid May.

Treasurers were waiting for last week's Parliamentary debate to see if any further changes in calculations were needed. In one of the biggest administrative exercises since the introduction of National Insurance, local authorities will finalize their budgets for 1990-91.

In some, mainly Conservative-controlled, smaller shire districts, council officials are ready to send out bills; but in some London boroughs there are political battles ahead over budgets, and bills are unlikely to be despatched until the start of the new financial year.

A survey by *The Times* of three councils, the shire district of Bournemouth, the metropolitan dis-

trict of Wolverhampton and the London Borough of Waltham Forest, established the following points:

- Councils will have a clear idea of their spending in 1990-91 by mid February, and will have been notified of "precepts" demanded by county councils and such bodies as the Metropolitan Police and fire and civil defence authorities.
- Businesses may receive rates demands earlier than usual this year.
- Rebates are presenting councils with big clerical problems. Poorer householders may still have to apply to reduce their bills.
- Many councils will try to clear their rates arrears before clearing poll-tax defaulters.

Mr Mike Williams, deputy director of finance in Labour-controlled Wolverhampton, expects 186,000 people on his registration list will not receive bills before mid April.

Delays have been caused by a late change in the rules on "transitional relief", designed to stop large increases in poll-tax payments compared with rates.

Wolverhampton was set a poll-tax figure of £269 a head by Whitehall but expects it to be between £430 and £440.

Bournemouth has already decided that its tax will be less than the Government's assessment of what it needs to spend, but is waiting for Dorset County Council to decide its 1990-1991 budget. Both councils are Conservative.

Mr Michael Dwyer, the finance director, estimates that Bournemouth's poll tax, including the county element, could be between £312 and £325.

Bournemouth, which plans to send out its bills in late March, is offering a 2½ per cent discount to

residents who pay community charge demands in full. Councillors in Waltham Forest, where Labour has a slim majority, are examining estimates for 1990-91 to see where savings can be made. The budget will be set on March 7.

Waltham Forest is hoping to get its 160,000 poll-tax bills out on April 1. The Department of the Environment set it a target of £297 per head, but it is working on the assumption that poll tax will be £475. Mr Malcolm Chambers, borough treasurer, said one of his priorities was to ensure people got the rebates for which they were eligible. Last minute changes of mind by Whitehall were, he said, likely to frustrate his ambition of sending out all bills on the basis that all rebates had been taken into account.

The Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation will this week begin a

country-wide survey of councils to see how they are implementing the tax. Mr Colin Farrington, its director, said the work, being carried out jointly with the Institute of Fiscal Studies, was needed because there were too many wildly differing estimates of costs and effects of the changeover.

● Local authority support for the arts could be threatened by the introduction of the poll tax and the uniform business rate, the National Campaign for the Arts says in a report today (Simon Tait writes).

The report, *The NCA Local Arts League*, disclosed that in London the average spending on the arts in each borough was £4.47 per head in 1989-90. Swansea is the top non-metropolitan borough, spending £13.07 a head, and Bradford was the highest spending metropolitan district with £9.26 a head.

Anglo-Irish treaty

Haughey is ready for alternative

By Edward Gorman, Irish Affairs Correspondent

Mr Charles Haughey yesterday made clear his Government's preparedness to seek an alternative to the Anglo-Irish agreement.

The Irish Prime Minister said in Dublin the agreement could be replaced provided an alternative arrangement was found that was acceptable to the concerned parties, including by implication the British Government.

"On the broad picture, one would have to say that anybody who is looking around Europe of today (who is) prepared to say that any particular situation is unchangeable or immutable, would be very foolish," Mr Haughey said.

"Nobody has ever suggested that the Anglo-Irish agreement is there for all time. It is an international agreement between two governments and can always be substituted by agreement."

Mr Haughey was responding to a reported offer by two prominent Unionist politicians that they may consider opening talks on the future government of Northern Ireland provided Mr Haughey and Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, publicly state that they are prepared to consider an alternative to the present treaty.

Mr Jim Nicholson and Mr Jack Allen, deputy leader and chairman respectively of the Ulster Unionist Party, said in Strasbourg on Saturday that

they believed there was now an opportunity to break the deadlock over Northern Ireland.

In an interview in the *Sunday Press* Mr Nicholson said: "We don't want nods and winks. If we had a public indication from the Secretary of State and from either Mr Haughey or Mr Collins (the Irish Foreign Minister) that they were prepared to look at a new agreement, that everything is on the table, that might break the deadlocked position in Northern Ireland."

Mr Haughey's rapid and enthusiastic response was seen as further evidence of the improving political climate noted by Mr Brooke in his keynote speech on devolution earlier this month. Mr Brooke spoke then of what he saw as the "common ground" between the constitutional parties in Ulster.

Despite his optimism Mr Brooke made it clear that Britain would not reconsider the future of the agreement until inter-party talks had produced a new devolved administration in Northern Ireland. There seems no prospect that this latest proposal will deflect the Government in that determination.

● An Ulster Defence Regiment corporal was seriously ill in hospital last night after a car bomb explosion in Letterbrat Road, near Plumb Bridge, Co Tyrone, as he drove off from his parents' home on Saturday.

Union leader with eye on pay goal



Roger Poole, right, the union negotiator, putting his best foot forward in a soccer match to raise funds for ambulancemen

By Tim Jones
Employment Affairs Correspondent

Ambulance union leaders this week face their sternest test in the 19-week-old ambulance dispute as crews throughout the country increase pressure for an all-out strike to force the Government to improve on its 9 per cent basic pay offer over 18 months.

Tomorrow shop stewards from London will meet to decide whether to support calls for a national strike

ballot which some believe is the only way open to them to force the Government back to the negotiating table. Last night, Mr Chris Humphreys, the London region officer for the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe), said: "It is not surprising that after all this time some crews are talking of strike action but the union is still appealing to all members to maintain the emergency 999 cover."

Some militant shop stewards believe that, with no end to the dispute in sight, the only

way to push the dispute to a resolution is to take indefinite all-out action that will stretch the police and army services. They have indicated, however, that they would leave picket lines to staff ambulances in response to pleas from the public.

On Wednesday, the day before the leaders of the five unions meet to decide strategy, crews in Greater Manchester are planning to hold a 24-hour strike.

In spite of the pressure and increasing frustration, union

leaders believe most of the 22,500 members are firmly behind the national leadership. They have been encouraged by crews in the West Midlands area who have decided to back their insistence that the 999 service must be maintained, but it is difficult to see how they can increase the pressure while maintaining this stance.

Union leaders are hoping for a huge response for their plea for people to stop work for 15 minutes later this month to express support.

Common Market unity

Tories set up pro-Europe group

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

A Conservative pressure group designed to strengthen the party's commitment to the European Community was launched yesterday as the 32 Conservative MEPs prepared to meet Mrs Thatcher at Downing Street.

The Positive Europe Group, formed as a counterweight to the anti-federalist Bruges Group, is backed by several influential MPs and peers, including two former Cabinet ministers, Lord Jenkin and Mr David Howell.

Its formation came as it was disclosed that the Conservative group in Strasbourg had last month agreed a document calling for the momentum towards European

unity to be stepped up. The document was agreed in order to set out the Tory position in the committee of the European Parliament which is looking at development of the community's institutions.

Strasbourg sources yesterday played down its significance and made plain that it had in no way been drawn up to inflame controversy in advance of Wednesday's meeting with the Prime Minister.

MEPs said yesterday they hoped to explore ways of improving contact with the Government in order to avoid the appearance of rifts which damaged the party in last year's European elections.

The document, however, underlines the differences on European union. It says: "Further steps are needed and should be planned immediately and put into practice at the earliest possible date." It also proposes measures to strengthen the role of the European Parliament at the expense of Westminster.

● Sir Anthony Meyer yesterday dispelled the prospect of a by-election in his Clywd North-West constituency after his desertion by the local party association.

Sir Anthony, who challenged Mrs Thatcher for the party leadership last year, vowed to resist the "many calls" for his immediate

resignation and for him to stand as an independent Conservative.

Sir Anthony said: "I am resisting the many calls to put my position to the judgment of the local electorate."

"The reason is that I want to fight this battle from within the Conservative Party and not from without."

"What I am trying to do is to have some influence on Conservative Party policies. You cannot do that from outside."

Sir Anthony, Mrs Thatcher's fiercest and most outspoken critic on the Tory benches, said he did not intend to avail himself of the appeal process.

Green election spur brings cash crisis

The Green Party is facing a financial crisis and planning a series of cutbacks because of its success in the European elections last year.

The party's income has failed to keep pace with the spending required to meet the upsurge of interest it has generated and is expected to face a £30,000 shortfall by March. A spokesman said a series of cost-cutting measures would have to be introduced.

The news of the party's financial difficulty was said to have shocked members of its council meeting in Bristol at the weekend.

A professional fund-raiser is to be appointed in an attempt to generate new income. This job is likely to be made more difficult by the party's commitment not to raise money from environmentally unacceptable sources.

Miss Janet Alty, a Green Party speaker, said: "The cash crisis is because of the party's success. Since June we have had enormous demands put upon us. We are trying to run a

national organization with a full-time staff of just four people. Organizations around the country are crying out for Green Party speakers."

"The public is deluging our offices for information. Companies' and the other political parties' claims to be green need to be properly examined. We have the people to do the job. We just need the money behind us."

Mr Peter Lang, the party's press officer, said the financial problems would not affect the number of candidates to be fielded in forthcoming local and national elections.

He added: "The Greens have always been short of money and its campaign has traditionally been financed on a wing and a prayer."

The Green Party, which polled 2.3 million votes in the European elections last June, has a membership of about 17,000. Its principle source of funding is from subscriptions, a standard rate of £15 a year reduced to £6 for the unemployed and the low paid.

Exhibition



CHRISTIE'S

FLOWERS OF FIRE: An Exhibition of Kakiemon porcelain from the English Country House at Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1. 25 January - 9 February, Monday to Friday 9.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

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For any further information on exhibition or any sales in the next week, please telephone: (01) 839 9060.

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A Kakiemon Elephant. Circa 1630.
From Burghley House. 28.5 cm. long.

Judge's resignation

MP condemns 'gay smears'

Demands for an inquiry into unsupported allegations of homosexuality among Scottish judges are contributing to "smear with a broad brush and trial by rumour" Mr Brian Wilson, Labour's Scottish Home Affairs spokesman, said yesterday.

Mr Wilson accused Mr Jim Sillars, the SNP MP, of an "unconscious and illiberal campaign run behind a veneer of concern for ill-defined public interest".

There was also an anti-homosexual tone to the way the issue was being reported, he claimed.

Mr Wilson said Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Secretary of State for Scotland, should issue a statement to clarify issues which arose from an unattributable briefing to journalists last week detailing accusations made against some judges. The background to the resignation of Lord Dervaird, just before Christmas, was also given.

However Mr Wilson said: "I am certainly not prepared to join in the clamour for an

inquiry when no evidence has been produced to suggest criminal wrongdoing. Politicians who demand inquiries on the basis of rumour and innuendo are playing a very dangerous game."

He added: "In the absence of evidence, we are witnessing smear with a broad brush and trial by rumour. Nobody deserves that treatment, whether judges or paupers. At the same time sections of the media have taken the opportunity to flaunt prejudices which seem to afflict them considerably more than they do the general public."

It is understood that Lord Dervaird will return from a holiday in Cyprus some time this week.

At his hotel in Paphos, Lord Dervaird yesterday refused to speak about the matter.

"I have no comment whatsoever to make," he said, clearly distressed. When asked if his refusal to speak out would only fuel allegations, his wife Bridget replied: "He has resigned, that should have

put an end to the allegations." Lord Dervaird was speaking in the lobby of the modest three-star Kissos Hotel where the couple arrived for a two-week stay last Wednesday.

Lord Dervaird was wearing a thick green jumper and brown corduroys. His wife was kitted out in walking gear - hot clothing for the island's warm temperatures.


None of the hotel guests knew the Dervairds were at the hotel until British reporters arrived this weekend. It is now thought likely the couple will leave.

Lord Dervaird's double room with breakfast costs £15 per person a night. He is apparently spending most of his time out of the hotel.

Bernard Levin, page 12

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Conference



CHRISTIE'S

Artists of the '80s in Conversation

Come and hear the views of some of the last decade's most successful artists and craftsmen, including Ron Arad, Ray Flavel, Keith Cummings, Carol McNicoll and Alistair McCallum. They will be holding forth from 10.15 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. on Saturday, 27 January at Christie's Fine Arts Course, 63 Old Brompton Road, London SW7. Tickets are only £5.00. For further information please contact Camilla Gilchrist or Paul Greenhalgh at the address below:

8 King Street, St. James's, London SW1Y 6QT.
Tel: (01) 839 9060

Mackay to examine Pickles' remarks on 'dinosaur' judge

By Frances Gibb and Robin Young

The Lord Chancellor's officials are getting a transcript of remarks made by Judge Pickles, the circuit judge, on Friday when he denounced the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, as a "dinosaur".

An official said yesterday: "I am sure the Lord Chancellor will want to look at remarks the judge is reported as having made." Until that had been done, he added, it was not possible to say if any action would be taken.

Judge Pickles courted controversy again yesterday in an interview with David Frost on TV-am. He said that, if he meets Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice "would probably say, 'Well, you old bastard, you, and we shall probably sit down and have a drink together'".

Judge Pickles continued: "I mean basically the man is a good guy. We are both in the same fraternity, you know, and we both have our parts to play and say things, but that does not mean there is any personal animosity. Of course not. He's a good chap."

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, may come under pressure from some quarters of the judiciary to take action against Judge Pickles, a thorn in the side of the legal establishment.

Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, has already publicly criticized the judge for his remarks, saying he had

scandalized the court and brought the Lord Chief Justice into contempt.

On previous occasions when Judge Pickles ran into trouble over outspoken remarks, the Lord Chancellor's Department had preferred the course of least resistance, on the ground that to discipline him would only serve to fuel the controversy.

In yesterday's Frost interview, Judge Pickles held out the prospect that he would continue on the bench after his first opportunity for retirement on full pension, which comes in July 1991. The judge, like other circuit judges, does not have to retire until the year in which he is aged 72.

The judge said that he had letters of support from the public, from prison officers and from a prisoner.

The Lord Chancellor can reprimand the judge, a course of action taken by Lord Mackay in December 1988 over remarks by Sir Harold Goff, QC, when he failed to jail a former policeman convicted of abusing his step-daughter.

Alternatively, he has power to dismiss Judge Pickles, aged 63, under the Courts Act 1971, section 17 (4), for incapacity or misbehaviour.

Judges can only be removed from office on an address by both Houses of Parliament to the Crown, under the Act of Settlement 1700.

The judge claimed that Lord Hailsham had sent "the most outrageous letters, threatening all kinds of things, but as soon as I came out in the open the thing stopped".

The Lord Chancellor acts as prosecutor, judge and jury, deciding what constitutes misbehaviour and whether a particular judge is guilty of it. Many believe he should be advised by some kind of judicial panel, possibly with laymen, to whom there would be a right of appeal. A dismissed judge would not necessarily forfeit pension entitlements.

Judge Pickles said yesterday that he could not recall the case of Vivien-Anne Todd, a teenage mother whom he jailed for 28 days for the theft of goods worth £30.

Her son Darryl, aged five months, died two weeks after she came out of prison. In an interview on BBC Radio Leeds the judge said that any suggestion that his separating the mother and baby could have been a factor in the death was "absurd".

TV-am said last night that its telephone switchboard received complaints about the use of the word "bastard" by Judge Pickles and by Mr Frost.

High hemlines herald summer season



Christian Lacroix couture has chosen a body-hugging style for the new season. Stepping into summer (left) with a swinging gold-fringed skirt appended to a painted and jewel-embroidered Lycra catsuit. The ornamented athlete look is continued (right) with a swimsuit-dress in jazzy-patterned Lycra swathed with a full length satin overskirt sweeping the ground.

By Liz Smith
Fashion Editor

The hot-house world of haute couture is demonstrating a new line in hard-sell tactics. At the start of the season's shows in Paris, top fashion houses headed by aggressive entrepreneurs and investment bankers are anxious to display a soaring balance sheet with the rising hemline.

A luxurious parade of texture and colour from Christian Lacroix kicked off yesterday's shows, followed last night by the spectacular launch of Lacroix's first fragrance in a dazzling revue led by Sylvie Guillem.

The irreverently named *C'est La Vie* will be available from mid April. It must prove itself as a money-spinner as M. Bernard Arnault, chairman of Financiere Agache, who established the Lacroix fashion house three years ago, is impatient to reap the reward of an investment reported to exceed £20 million.

This week the spotlight is on Lanvin, now owned by Midland Bank and run by M. Leon Bressler, where another ready-to-wear designer Claude Montana makes his debut tomorrow with his first couture collection.

PORTFOLIO

Two share prize of £12,000

Two winners shared last week's Portfolio Platinum prize of £12,000.

Mrs Barbara Ward, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, who has been playing Portfolio since it was launched, will share her £6,000 prize with her grandson and spend part of her money on house maintenance and refurbishment. "There is a painting due, but I hope that will leave enough for a few frivolities and a get together with the family."

For Mr Frank Gould, of Glenmore Road, north-west London, the win was a particularly lucky one. "I do not find time to do Portfolio regularly during the week so my opportunity for winning tends to be limited to the weekends," he said. He intends to buy presents for his wife and three children.

Boroughs 'not ready' for schools takeover

By David Tytler
Education Editor

Some schools will lack adequate administrative support because of poor political guidance when the London boroughs take over the responsibilities of the Inner London Education Authority later this year.

One head teacher in Lambeth said: "They will not be ready by April but the heads will see to it that the schools are open and the children will not suffer."

Ministers are anxious not to offend the education officers taking over in the 12 boroughs on April 1 but have been told that some faced "difficult days" because of inadequate administrative support and no clear political decisions.

The Government had originally intended that the London boroughs would be allowed to opt-out of Ilea but two senior Conservative politicians, Mr Norman Tebbit and Mr Michael Heseltine, forced an amendment to the Education Reform Bill scrapping Ilea from April 1990.

Education ministers now believe that was a better solution than the "slow death" Ilea could have suffered under the original plan. They also claim that many of the Labour authorities wanted to run their own education service but recognized that it would only happen under a Conservative government.

There is some concern about progress in Lambeth, Southwark and Hackney, where there are administrative and political difficulties. Ministers, however, have been impressed by the management in Tower Hamlets but accept that there is a problem of teacher shortages, which they blame on "mismanagement by Ilea".

Boroughs have had regular meetings with Mrs Angela Rumbold, Minister of State for Education and Science, and senior officials to plan the handover with some councils requiring more assistance than others. They are confident, however, that even the slow starters will be running efficiently within three years.

This year the boroughs will inherit spending of £1 billion.

Teachers' salaries Union condemns low pay

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

Graduates who entered teaching six years ago are earning less than their counterparts who went into almost any other job, according to a National Union of Teachers survey published yesterday.

In a final attempt to win an improvement on the 6 per cent pay offer to teachers, the union has made an emergency submission to the Interim Advisory Committee on teachers' pay which states that "only secretaries, librarians, clerical and manual workers had a lower average salary than teachers".

The union survey says that the teachers receive a salary about 30 per cent below the average for all graduate occupations.

Lord Chilver, chairman of the advisory committee, has been set a limit of £600 million for this year's settlement - an increase for all class-room staff of 6 per cent. Ministers, however, are coming under mounting pressure from inside their own party to raise this ceiling.

On Saturday, Sir Rhodes Boyson, the MP and former education minister, said that education reforms would fail unless there was a "great improvement" in teacher morale which was "lower than it has been for 50 years".

According to government figures from the *Employment Gazette*, teachers who entered the profession six years ago are now earning an average of

£9,850 compared with those in administration and management who are on £13,190 a year. The union said that 20,000 teachers resigned last year leaving a shortage of 15,000 in the foundation subjects of the National Curriculum. The report says: "On current rates of inflation, by March 1990 teachers will have fallen some 2.5 per cent their position in March 1988... the amount added to the pay bill would need to be £825 million."

Lord Chilver is expected to report to Mr John MacGregor, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, later this month on how the £600 million set aside for teachers should be distributed but Mr MacGregor has ruled out any increase.

This week, however, he is



Sir Rhodes: "Need for boost to the morale of teachers."

expected to take steps to reduce the amount of extra work required of teachers since the introduction of the National Curriculum. He is also pressing Mr John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to introduce a weekly "childcare" tax allowance to attract mothers back into teaching.

The union argues that morale in the teaching profession is especially low because of the demands placed on teachers, first to adjust to the GCSE examinations which replaced O levels, and later to introduce the National Curriculum, with its seven compulsory core subjects.

Mr MacGregor is expected to remove one of the major burdens resented by teachers, who say they are having to teach two syllabuses, one for GCSEs and one for the National Curriculum tests at 16, when he announces a scheme to combine the two exams.

Pupils may be charged for the use of school lockers, bicycle racks and any facility that is not "essential" to their educational needs after the refusal of Mr MacGregor to rule that Longhills School, in Brighton, East Sussex, should not charge for lockers.

Parent-teacher associations have the right to introduce the charges but Mr MacGregor insisted that this right should not be extended to school governors or local authorities. Education page 31

Pupils embrace social work

By Our Education Editor

Most schools in England and Wales are involved in helping the local community, according to a survey published today. Nine out of 10 classes of pupils aged 12 to 13 were involved while two-thirds of those with pupils aged 15 to 16 continued with some kind of social studies.

The survey of 455 secondary schools by Professor Ken Fogelman, of Leicester University, for The Speaker's Commission on Citizenship, says that for the younger children fund-raising was by far the most popular activity.

The findings are being sent to the National Curriculum Council which is now consid-

ering how citizenship can best be taught. Citizenship studies for the younger children included nature conservation, charities, pollution, the Christian community, support for the Third World, health, the family, relationships, voting and the parliamentary system, police, the aged, alcohol and smoking, recreation and money management.

Lessons for the older children included the world of work, health morals, conflict in the community, national and international affairs, trade unions, duties and rights of adults, sexual relationships, persecution and prejudice, local government and Par-

liament, crime and crime prevention, and care of the elderly.

For the younger children, 30 per cent of the schools said that nearly all their pupils were involved, 24 per cent said that more than half were, while only 18 per cent said that a quarter or less of their pupils were concerned. For the older children 29 per cent of the schools said that nearly all their pupils were involved, 17 per cent said more than half were, and 36 per cent said the figure was a quarter or fewer.

Community work and citizenship studies are often used in references when the child leaves school.

Action urged on bone disease

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Thousands of women at risk of hip fractures because of the brittle bone disease osteoporosis could be given protective treatment, according to a report published today.

Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) for the condition, common in elderly women, would save the health service millions of pounds, the Office of Health Economics said.

The office, which receives funding from the drugs industry, said that by 2011, when more than 15,000

women were predicted to suffer hip fractures, the annual cost of the injuries could reach £478 million.

The number of breaks, however, could be halved if the one-in-four women at highest risk of osteoporosis received the therapy. The report estimates that if the therapy had been prescribed in this way in 1985, the NHS would have saved nearly £33 million.

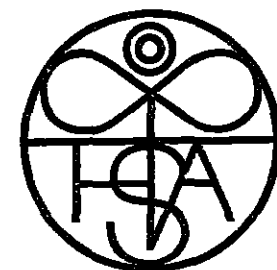
It said the benefits of the therapy far exceeded any known or suspected risks.

including those of cancer, but it acknowledged more research was needed. The disease is related to hormonal changes after the menopause.

Thirteen per cent of general practitioners may have given women patients the wrong form of hormone therapy according to a survey to be aired on HRT: *Out Of Control?* on Sky Television tonight.

Osteoporosis and the Risk of Fracture (OHE, 12 Whitehall, London SW1A 2DY; £1.50).

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A booklet setting out these ideas more fully will be published shortly.

Waterloo despatch secured for the nation

SALEROOM

John Shaw

The Duke of Wellington's handwritten account of his victory at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 has been bought by the nation after two years of secret negotiations.

The British Library will pay about £250,000 this week for the Iron Duke's tear-stained account, written on the field of battle. Experts regard it as a bargain as it could have fetched more than £1 million at auction.

The purchase was funded by a £313,000 grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund which, together with the library, has been negotiating with the eighth Duke, who said yesterday he was pleased that the eight-page despatch would remain in Britain.

The Duke inherited the despatch from his ancestor and decided to sell it two years ago to help pay for maintenance at Stratfield Saye, the family's 7,000 acre estate between Basingstoke and Reading.

The historic document, written to Lord Bathurst, Minister of War, on June 19, 1815, told of Britain's victory over Napoleon, which brought peace to Europe for almost a century.

The Duke was so upset by the huge casualties of almost 50,000 that tears smudged the ink and a third copy had to be sent. Tears notwithstanding, Wellington's letter was written with his legendary brevity.

Critics accused him of coldness when the letter summarizing four days of slaughter was published in *The Times*, but many deletions in the original version reveal the true depth of his feelings. The document will go on show in the

manuscript saloon of the British Library in Great Russell Street.

The American taxman had an unexpected windfall when a Sultanabad carpet, 24ft x 14ft, sold to a private buyer for \$181,500 (£110,367) and established a record for a Turkish carpet at Sotheby's in New York on Saturday.

It belonged to Mr Roberto Polo, the former multi-millionaire financier who lost a fortune in the stock market crash of October 1929. He had massive tax liabilities and his art collection, estimated at between \$6 million and \$8 million, is to be sold progressively throughout the year by the American Internal Revenue Service.

His multi-coloured Star Kazak rug from the late 18th century, one of only five of its type known, achieved another record - \$266,000 (£173,913). The total sale made \$3,393,720 (£2,063,678) with 83 per cent of the collection sold.

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EMPLOYMENT TRAINING IS WORKING.

Howard looks to 1990s as 'decade of high skills'

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Michael Howard will today launch a drive to turn the 1990s into the "skills decade" for Britain in his first keynote speech in his new role as Secretary of State for Employment.

In an interview yesterday with *The Times* Mr Howard spelled out significant new opportunities for women workers in the new decade and held out the prospect of employers continuing to re-train workers into their 60s as a fitter population turned its back on the idea of retirement at 65.

Setting out his department's agenda for the 1990s, Mr Howard issued a warning that the development of Eastern European economies will mean that there are many more countries able to make things that do not require high skills and high productivity and that do not produce a significant added value.

Britain will need to become a "high skill, high productivity, high wage economy" but can only hope to do so if the necessary skills are developed in the workforce by a boost to training.

Mr Howard held out the prospect of an advance in career prospects for women, saying that many were doing jobs below their capabilities because it had been the tradition in their families only to send the boys to further education.

He praised the Midland Bank for providing scholarships to enable such women to attend university courses and said that if necessary the Government would consider boosting such schemes in due course, although it was in employers' own interests to get on with them.

Mr Howard said: "The 1990s will represent a tremendous decade of opportunity for women who have been out of the workforce and want to return to work."

Employers should not just concentrate on getting them

back to work by such means as the provision of crèches: they should ensure they were doing the jobs they were really capable of doing and were not stuck as many had been in jobs below their potential.

Employers are to be encouraged to attract women with more flexible hours of work and holidays, increased job-sharing, career breaks and help with child care costs.

On the question of further tax incentives for the provision of crèches, Mr Howard was more cautious. "We will be looking at it," he said.

With the prospect of a million fewer people aged 16 to 19 in the workforce by 1993 compared with a decade ago the minister concedes the danger of labour shortages.

Many women are doing jobs below their capabilities

That, he said, would make older workers another much-needed resource.

"People are increasingly becoming frustrated by the idea of retiring at 65. They tend to be fitter, obviously are going to live longer and do not see why they should retire at 65."

He praised the response of business and industry in the setting up of Training and Enterprise Councils that involve businessmen and industrialists in setting up vocational training schemes to meet local needs. Fifty-one such councils have been set up.

Mr Howard, however, has made no decisions yet on the Confederation of British Industry's call for a national scheme of training vouchers for school leavers to spend as they wish on training with firms or at state or private colleges.

He accepted that after 41 consecutive months of reductions in the unemployment total there was a danger that he could be the first Secretary of State for Employment to see the jobless figures edge up again. The key, he said, was pay.

In exhorting people not to push for excessive wage claims Mr Howard insisted that the Government was not making "generalized appeals for altruism" but merely asking people to look to their own long-term interests.

It is no use getting a hefty wage increase one year if it drives a firm next year to make its future investment in another area.

No-one, he said, can expect uninterrupted economic bliss. "The world isn't like that."



Mr Howard: First keynote speech on employment

Company cars

Extra tax on perk may inflate pay

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

The Government will face a huge inflationary push for pay awards worth £2.5 billion if Mr John Major imposes higher tax rates on company car users in the Budget, it was claimed yesterday.

One of Britain's biggest fleet companies issued a warning that managers forced to abandon their company cars under the pressure of greater tax bills imposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer would demand typical increases of £8,000 a year in compensation.

Company car users are a prime target as a source of extra tax income with Treasury officials believing that present charges do not reflect the true benefit to the driver.

However, Dial Contracts, which has 100,000 vehicles on contract hire in Britain, said that if the tax rises of 133 per cent over the past two years were further increased it would end the reign of the company car as a benefit and would lead to a huge loss in sales for the car industry.

Mr Tony Elliott, Dial's sales and marketing general manager, said that many drivers would opt for a pay rise instead of a company car to

avoid extra taxation.

Company cars account for half of all new models sold in Britain — more than 1.1 million last year alone.

Dial's warning underlines the Chancellor's dilemma as he compiles his Budget. A move to increase the £350 million annual revenue paid to the Treasury by company car drivers may only result in a pay explosion adding to inflation worries.

The impact on the British manufacturing industry could be just as important, with British manufacturers such as Ford, Vauxhall and Rover dominating the fleet market.

Mr Paul Tosch, managing director of Vauxhall, which manufactures the top-selling Cavalier fleet car, said: "The effects of extra taxation on fleet users could be very great."

Manufacturers said that drivers abandoning the company car and faced with high interest charges would trade down, into the type of smaller engine cars typically made by the Japanese and soon to be manufactured by firms such as Nissan and Toyota in Britain.

Britain chases car plant

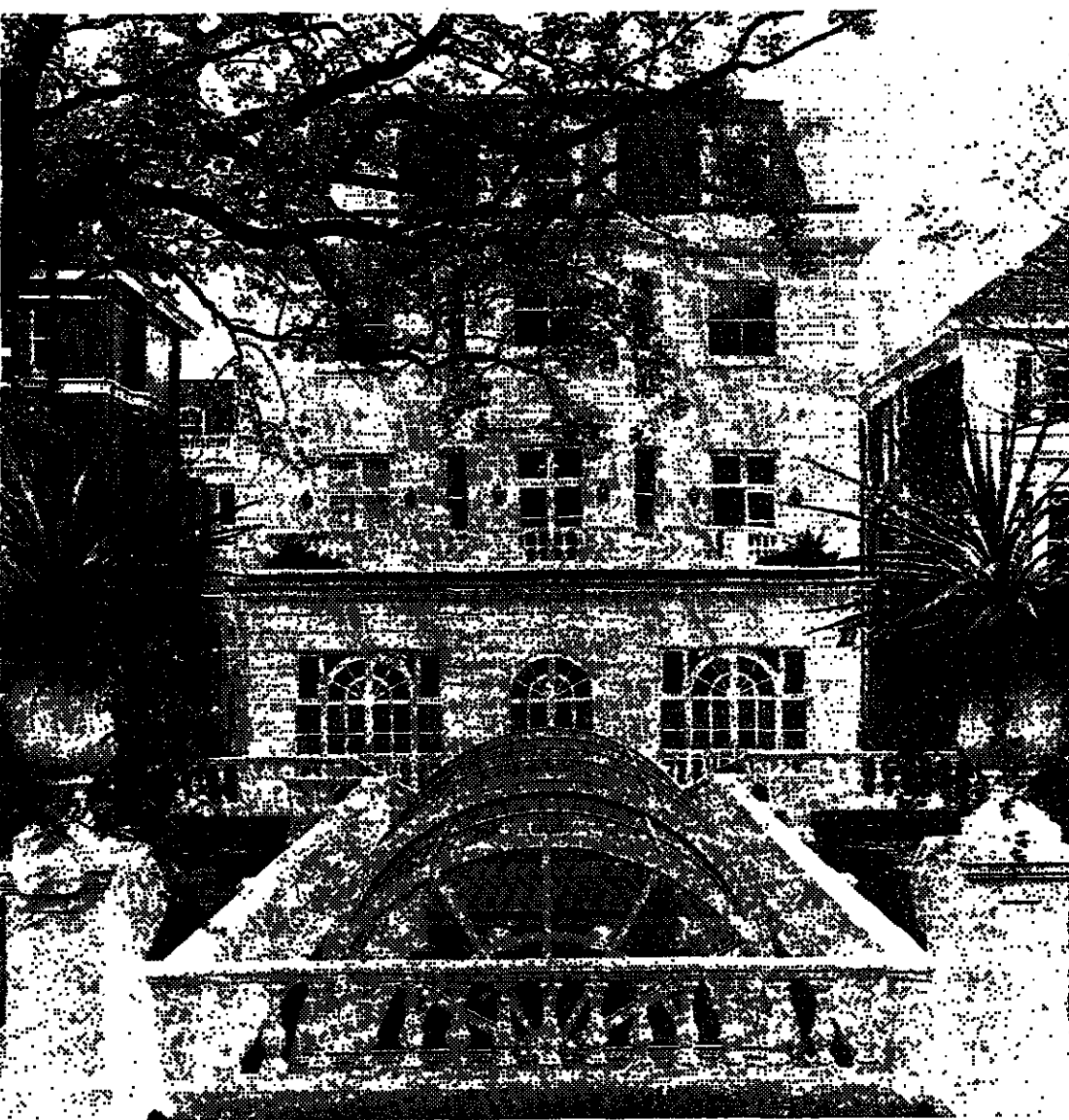
Britain is favourite to capture a £200 million engine plant for General Motors after productivity gains impressed American executives (Our Motoring Correspondent writes).

Record profits approaching £200 million at the company's British arm, Vauxhall, plus moves towards radical Japanese-style working techniques this year are thought to be swaying executives in Detroit, who were worried by high wage settlements in Britain.

GM has submissions from Britain and West Germany for the plant, which will manufac-

ture V6 engines for the company's Vauxhall and Opel cars. Productivity rose 13 per cent in 1989. Production rates will rise again by 12 per cent this year with assembly of the company's biggest selling car, the Cavalier, rising from 40 an hour to 45. The increase will create 200 jobs. British car production of 1.299 million cars last year was the highest for 12 years, with exports rising by more than a third, according to provisional figures issued by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Ambassadorial elegance typifies £12.5m home



The Victorian facade of Number 19, the largest houses in the area. Recently it housed the Yugoslav Consulate, but by the time the present owner, an overseas corporation, bought it about three years ago, it was scarcely more than a shell. The Middle Eastern businessman who was to occupy it with his family has made rebuilding the man-style and opulence. The garden was completely dug out to build an indoor swimming pool complex, above, and then put back around the glass roof. accommodation comprises three vast reception rooms, a master bedroom suite with a 40 ft bedroom, eight more bedroom suites, a billiards room, playroom, three staff bedrooms and a separate chauffeur's flat.

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NEXT GENERATION CHEMISTRY

Risk to humans cannot be completely ruled out, chief vet says

'Mad cow' disease could have been avoided

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The cattle disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, could have been prevented if a ban imposed two years ago on feeding to cattle products derived from sheep had been introduced a decade earlier, the Government's chief veterinary officer acknowledged yesterday.

Mr Keith Meldrum, head of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said the risk of the disease being transmitted from cattle to humans could not be completely discounted, but emphasized that it was only a remote possibility.

Today Mr John Gummer, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, will be in Brussels to demand an end of West German restrictions on British beef imports. He will stress that food experts from all EC member states, including West Germany, are unanimous that BSE cannot be passed to humans through the food chain.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Meldrum suggested that the elimination of the disease might take some years and eventually require tougher control measures.

He said he would not be surprised if research now under way showed that BSE could be transmitted from cattle to their calves, in the same way that the related brain disease, scrapie, can be inherited by sheep.

Mr Meldrum also insisted that British beef was safe, and that the Government's measures were more than adequate to remove what was "probably a zero risk" to consumers.

"I am totally content that what we are doing now is totally sound and is all that we need to do in order to remove any possibility of BSE exposure to man from cattle," he

said. However, he added: "I cannot say there is no risk to man from BSE. It is too early. We have only had this disease in this country for three years, and the incubation period in man in cases of encephalopathies is very long indeed."

Researchers believe that possible links between BSE, scrapie and Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease (CJD), which affects about one person in a million each year in Britain, must be thoroughly investigated.

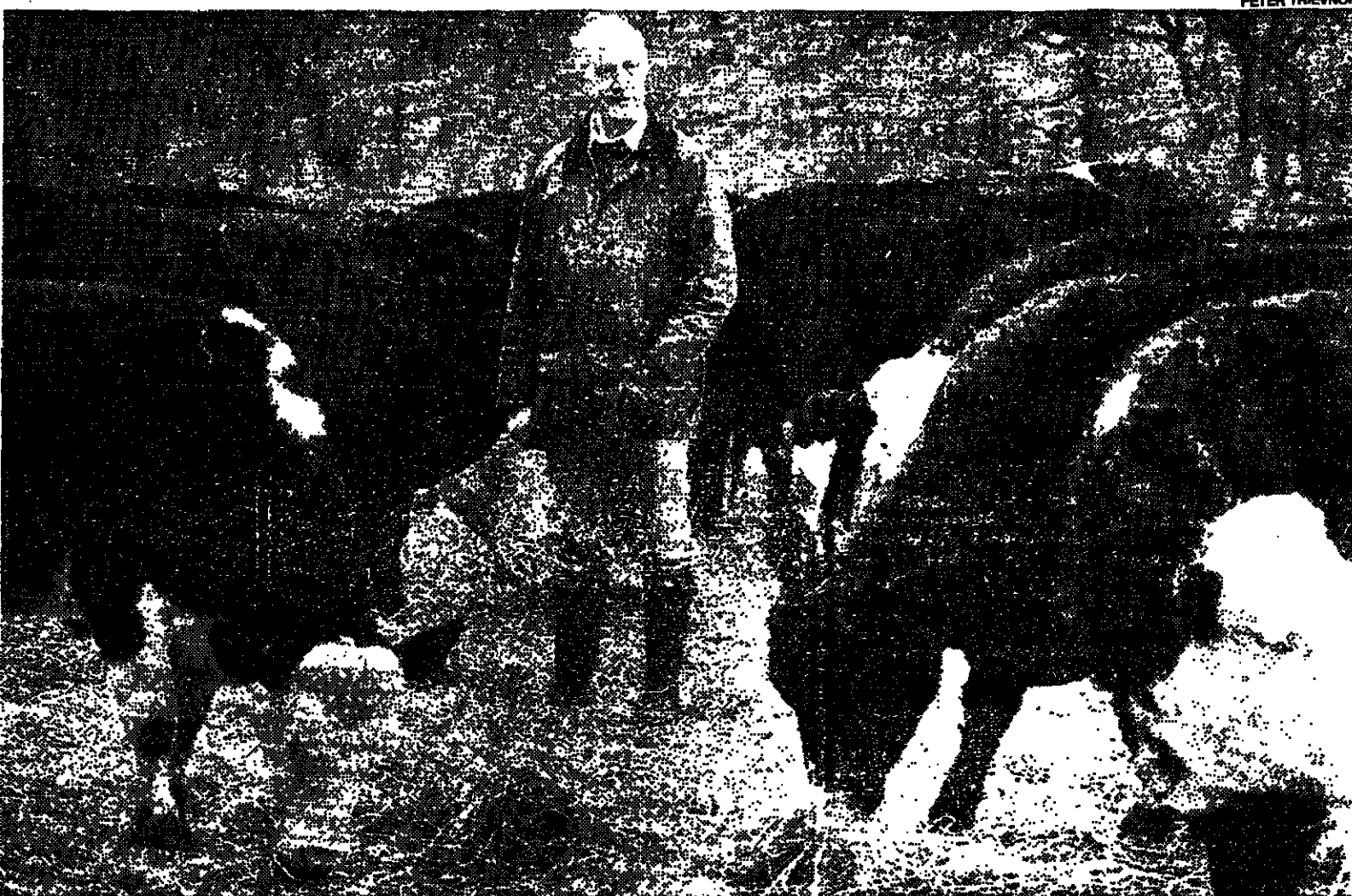
No evidence has been found of a connection between scrapie and CJD, although the sheep disease has been known for about 250 years.

Mr Meldrum said it was "unfortunate" that a risk to cattle from scrapie had not been considered sooner than it was. In 1988, the ministry had banned the feeding of sheep protein to cattle as a preventive measure.

"With hindsight I wish we had imposed this ban in the mid-1970s. If we had done that we would not have the problem now. Unfortunately no-one made the quantum leap then and thought that there was a potential problem, and that we must avoid the possibility of cattle being exposed from sheep."

Now that the transfer of the disease from sheep to cattle had been shown to occur, experts were looking at "every other single possibility," he said. "If we thought we needed to introduce additional controls to avoid another leap between species, then undoubtedly I would make recommendations to ministers accordingly."

The only such possibility was whether pigs could succumb to brain diseases such as scrapie. They had been fed high levels of meal derived from sheep for many years



Off duty: Mr Meldrum taking a stroll among a neighbour's herd of Angus, Friesian and Hereford cattle near his home in Godalming, Surrey, yesterday.

and there had never been an encephalopathy in pigs. "For that reason we think there is no need to impose a similar ban on pig feed."

"There are so many unknowns with BSE that research is absolutely crucial and we have got to demonstrate without any doubt that BSE behaves exactly the same way in cattle that it does in sheep and goats. We believe

it does, we have now to demonstrate that it does. There is a vast amount of research to do in the years ahead."

Government scientists have begun a study involving 640 cattle to see whether transmission of BSE occurs between cows and their calves. "The definitive answer from that experiment may take seven years. I have an open

mind. It would not surprise me to find that maternal transmission did occur, but I would be delighted if it did not," Mr Meldrum said.

"It would be bad news if it did, because it would show that more cattle have been exposed, not from eating meat or bone meal, but from their mothers. We would have to consider then adapting our own control programme. It

would not necessarily be so disastrous to do so because the majority of cattle that are born are slaughtered for human consumption. Not many are kept for breeding purposes.

"Of the calves that have been born so far among the 9,300 confirmed cases of BSE, a significant number will already have been slaughtered."

The rules now are that all affected cattle are destroyed

and that offals from all healthy cattle over the age of six months are removed and not sold for human or animal consumption.

These are the brain, spinal cord, spleen, thymus, tonsils and intestines.

Offals from calves under six months are not included because the slow development of the disease suggests they do not present a hazard.

Decline in birds blamed on farms

By Ruth Gledhill

Britain's farmers could be contributing to the rapid decline of some of the most popular bird species because of intensive farming methods, according to a report to be published in March.

Some species have declined by half in under 10 years, according to *Population Trends in British Breeding Birds*.

The census that resulted in the report was commissioned from the British Trust for Ornithology by the Nature Conservancy Council in 1961 because of concern about the effect of farming methods on bird life.

Every year since then, volunteers have visited sites throughout Britain and counted the numbers of birds. They discovered that the corn bunting and linnet have declined by half since 1981 and the skylark by 40 per cent since the late 1970s.

The shift from spring to autumn sowing, with the loss of winter stubble, has affected the mistle thrush and linnet. Herbicides and insecticides are implicated in the decline of the greenfinch and grey partridge.

Mr Chris Mead, of the British Trust for Ornithology, called for an agricultural policy to take account of conservation.

Conservationists will this week decide whether to report Britain to the European Commission over a decision by Shell UK, backed by the Government, to build a construction yard on a part of the Scottish coast designated a site of special scientific interest.

Morrich More, an area of sand dunes and salt marsh near Tain, Highland, is the only breeding site on the British mainland of the whimbrel, a rare wading bird.

Argentine air service resumes

Scheduled air services between Argentina and Britain resumed yesterday when the first Aerolineas Argentinas flight since the Falklands war arrived at Heathrow airport from Buenos Aires.

The Boeing 747 jet, however, made an emergency landing after the captain suspected a tyre problem. The captain said it was "just a precaution".

British Airways and Aerolineas Argentinas will each operate two flights a week between London and Buenos Aires.

Armed arrests

Armed police halted traffic on the M4 near the Severn Bridge in Avon, yesterday as they arrested two men suspected of alleged drug offences.

Disaster hero

Mr Arthur Bradbury, aged 43, a purser who was awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal after helping to save 34 lives in the Manchester airport disaster, died last week from cancer.

Bond winners

The winner of the £100,000 prize in the weekly Premium Bond draw announced on Saturday was the holder of 26PL 931241, who lives in Norwich. The £50,000 prize went to 13CT 856863, from Perthshire, and the £25,000 prize to 9KB 911485, from Essex.

War crime prosecutions face formidable obstacles

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A formal Cabinet decision to legislate for the prosecution of alleged Nazi war criminals, expected at the end of this month, will trigger what lawyers expect to be the biggest, most expensive criminal investigation in legal history.

Government lawyers are bracing themselves to tackle a formidable array of legal obstacles in the way of the successful prosecution of alleged war criminals living in Britain.

The investigation, under the aegis of the Home Office, would probably fall to a special police squad, working with lawyers from the Crown Prosecution Service and experts on international law.

They would first prepare evidence against three individuals singled out by the inquiry under Sir Thomas Heithington QC, former Director of Public Prosecutions, and Mr William Chalmers, former Crown Agent for Scotland, who strongly urged prosecution. They would then have to investigate another 75 alleged Nazi collaborators highlighted in the inquiry and trace a further 46 men.

The biggest obstacle to a successful prosecution, therefore, is the likely delay in assembling cases. Members of the investigating team, with interpreters, will have to travel to rural parts of Russia to interview elderly witnesses, who may be reluctant to give evidence or whose memories may be faulty. When lawyers

finally come to weigh up whether or not a case justifies prosecution, it will undoubtedly clear the "public interest" hurdle, given the strength of feeling in the Commons. But there is a real prospect that many cases would be deemed not viable.

The second batch of obstacles are procedural. To overcome these, the Heithington-Chalmers report recommended some changes to the normal rules of evidence and procedure because of the exceptional circumstances of bringing prosecutions so long after the event.

Such changes, attacked by the Conservative MP Mr Ivor Stanbrook as "prerequisites for a rigged trial", would include:

● Use of the procedure now applied to serious fraud cases, where committal proceedings

are effectively cancelled and cases go direct to full trial. That would obviate the need for witnesses to attend two hearings.

● Admittance of documentary evidence, without the need for witnesses to attend.

● The taking of evidence from abroad by live video link.

● A special provision that archive material would be admissible as evidence.

Finally, if the cases get as far as the courts, there are likely to be lengthy arguments between historians about what happened where, and about the identity of defendants.

More fundamentally, defendants' lawyers may seek to argue the injustice of prosecutions so long after the event; and, in particular, challenge the constitutionality of prosecutions on the ground that the law has been changed retrospectively.

Lawyers are split on this issue: those who argue that the change in the law is not unconstitutional say it is only allowing prosecution for a crime that was a violation of laws and conventions at the time they were committed and not retrospectively criminalizing a previously lawful act.

In the meantime, the Government has its own Parliamentary hurdles to cross, in getting legislation through the Lords, where the general feeling was against prosecution. If successful, though, the law could be on the statute book by October.

Academics have a lot to do — such as ceasing to whore after consultancies and research grants and weighing their publications by the shelf-full in order to impress grant-givers — before they can convincingly offer ethical messages to others.

Beyond the Public Bureaucracy State (Information Office, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2E 7EE).

David Walker

Mr Thomas: Strongly urged action in three cases.

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Firms warned of relocation problems

By Tim Jones

Employment Affairs Correspondent

British firms are warned today that they must offer practical help to counter resistance by working wives to companies which want to relocate their husbands' jobs.

A survey by the Confederation of British Industry shows that almost half of 130 firms questioned said employees were refusing to move because of the "devastating effect on their lifestyle" caused by the loss of one income.

The problem, the CBI says, is likely to get bigger with the ever-increasing number of married women working. Husbands, too, can be equally hostile

when the wife's employer wants to move her. Firms, the survey shows, are increasingly aware of the need to develop policies which deal with the dilemma facing the working spouse, to secure the mobility of their workforce.

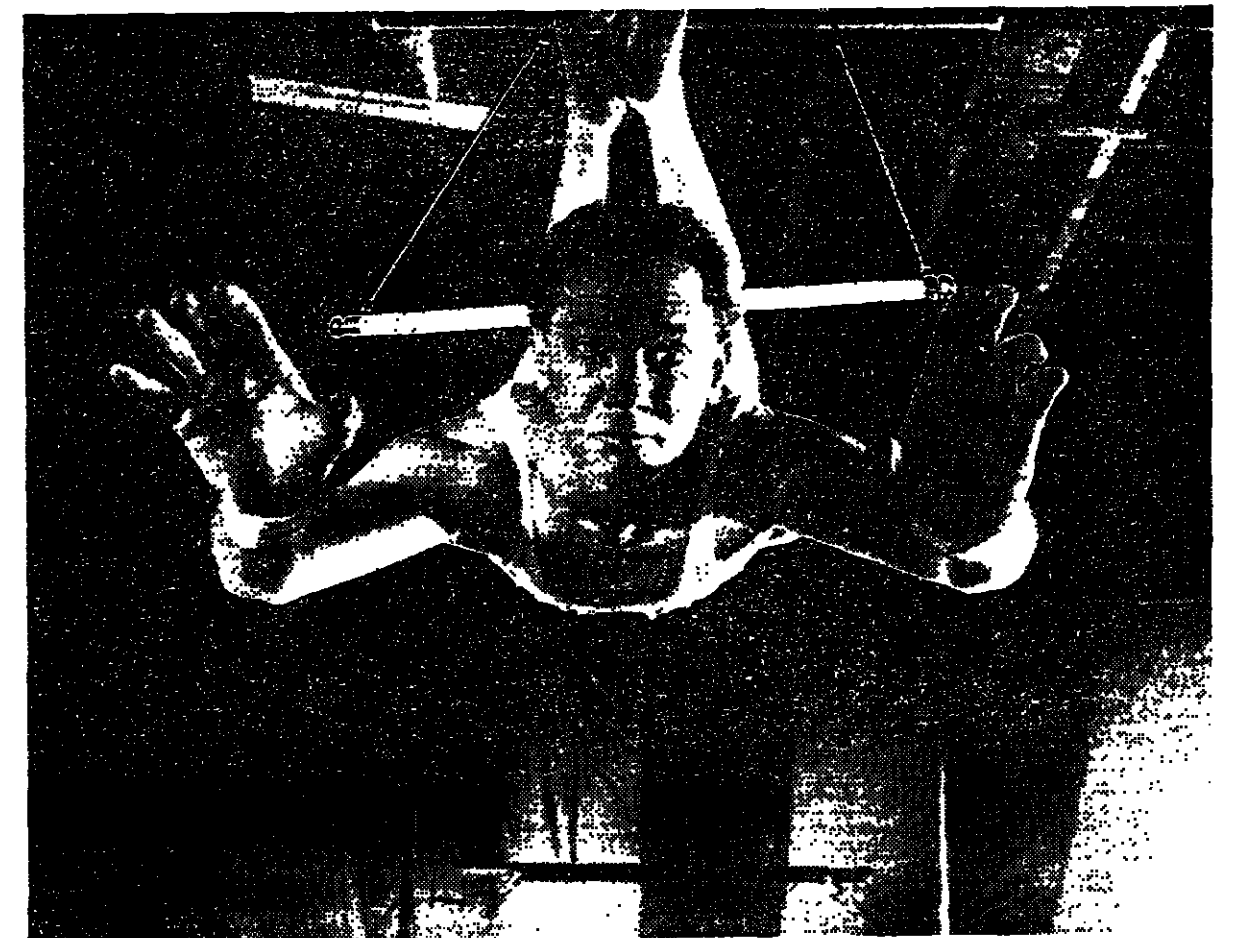
Nearly one in ten offer a formal "spouse employment assistance" package, written into their relocation policy. Of these, three out of ten give financial compensation, and seven out of ten give practical assistance in the form of career counselling, CV preparation and job search assistance in the new location.

In addition, four out of ten firms provide similar help informally. Half the firms questioned said they provided assistance for unmarried couples. Miss

Sue Shortland, manager of the CBI's Employee Relocation Council, said: "Couples are becoming increasingly dependent on dual incomes. For double income couples, a relocation and subsequent loss of one income can have a devastating effect on their lifestyle."

"In addition, the spouse or partner may be losing financial independence, which adds to the stress of relocating."

She said: "If the couple decide the spouse should remain in the old location while the employee moves to the new area with long-distance commuting at week-ends, this may jeopardize the relationship, leading to stress, anxiety and even divorce. It is also likely to affect the employee's performance at work."



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Restoring the ideal of public service

The inauguration the other day of a new professor of public administration at such a prestigious place of higher learning as the London School of Economics might, in other cultures or at other times, be an occasion for the grandees of public service to rub shoulders with the specialist academics who make a study of them.

But not in Britain in 1990. Permanent secretaries were thin on the ground at Professor Christopher Hood's inaugural lecture, *Beyond the Public Bureaucracy State*.

They were not there because, in Whitehall these days, reflection is something considered either dangerous or naive because it distracts from the macho managerial task in hand.

Also, sustained thinking about the shape and purpose of public bureaucracies has been privatized by being handed over to Coopers and Lybrand, Peat Marwick and

their ilk, whose highly-paid consultants produce reports that never see the light of public inspection.

It is as well Professor Hood did not attract the permanent secretaries; he hardly set them a reassuring table. Among the intellectual meat he set his audience chewing on waste the following:

● Much of what passes as new management in Whitehall and elsewhere in the public sector is vacuous or based on such crude models of human (and civil servant behaviour) as to be positively misleading.

To put it another way, the 1990s will show whether we can run a civil service on the basis of genuflection and financial incentives for performance, or whether the older virtues of independence, character and experience will come back into fashion.

● As privatization (as in the Property Services Agency) proceeds, there is not a danger of "increasing self-servingness by senior public managers". An example: the Student Loan Company is

being set up by the Government self evidently in order to privatize it at the earliest opportunity.

What kind of people will want to work there? Answer: young managers who sniff a buy-out opportunity and can see many uses for the data bank (graduates' names, addresses and financial circumstances) they might inherit.

● As the public service splits into fragments (executive agencies here, the burgeoning number of new quangos there) who is going to check that officials far distant from the usual lines of accountability do not abuse their powers?

Professor Hood coined the phrase, "constitutional illiteracy" to describe how weak the new doctrines of macho public sector management are in dealing with key questions about who is finally responsible and what rights the public have.

Professor Hood could, in the language of the thought-police who have been out and about in Whitehall in recent years, be accused of antagonism towards the private sector in believing that pri-

vate sector executives are in it for the money alone.

Nonetheless, he may be more in tune with changing times than they are. We have it on the authority of the Prime Minister that it is time once again to address moral issues.

The public service needs a morality, too, if only to stop the bureaucrats (or the private contractors appointed to replace them) feathering their nests.

However, Professor Hood ends by making an outrageous suggestion, that the source of a new or revived morality of public service might be the universities.

Academics have a lot to do — such as ceasing to whore after consultancies and research grants and weighing their publications by the shelf-full in order to impress grant-givers — before they can convincingly offer ethical messages to others.

Beyond the Public Bureaucracy State (Information Office, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2E 7EE).

David Walker

'Organized shooting of peaceful people'

The Times was given an eyewitness account yesterday of the entry of Soviet troops into Baku by a Soviet correspondent upset by the way his dispatches were edited by his newspaper.

Andrei Krainy, a staff correspondent for Komsomolskaya Pravda, the Communist Youth League paper, filed to Moscow at the weekend, and a colleague at the newspaper contacted The Times and The Daily Telegraph, saying parts had been adjudged too controversial to publish. Krainy, however, authorized his colleague to hand them to The Times for publication. Krainy, believed to be an ethnic Russian, is due to be replaced in Baku tomorrow, having finished his tour of duty.

I was woken up in the morning by the crash of caterpillar tracks. I looked out of the window. In the square just past the government building, a column of tanks was approaching.

In the square the night before and in all the streets leading into the city, literally at a command, firing began. Units of the Interior Ministry troops, formerly blockaded in railway stations and at the airport, were breaking through into the city.

Tanks and armoured personnel-carriers were crushing lorries and buses which had been used to block the roads. Crowds of people in the streets were screaming and shouting their anger.

Stones rained down from the crowd on to the soldiers. In reply came the sound of automatic gunfire. Exact casualty figures are not known but they run into hundreds. Nine soldiers were killed and 35 wounded.

Despite the opposition of the population, the troops pushed on into the city.

In the morning helicopters dropped leaflets. The military commander of Baku declared in them that a state of emergency now prevailed in the city.

Any activity by people from unofficial organizations was prohibited. The military reserved the right to search anyone, to halt and search

cars. They are making extensive use of this right now.

I saw cars shot up in the streets and avenues. They were splashed with blood. Opposite the Salyanovsky barracks, seven bodies were lying on a small hill, their faces mutilated beyond recognition. Evidently a military vehicle had run them over. Under the wheels of a flattened truck lay another body.

The soldiers surging out of the formerly blockaded barracks crushed both trucks and people.

Mourning flags were flying on the streets. Three days of mourning had been declared in the city. A mass meeting in front of the party headquarters is going on.

Slogans are held up: "The Soviet Army is a fascist army"; "Down with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union".

Before my eyes a column of paratroopers — I could make out their light blue flashes — is trying to break through into the Central Committee building.

But the streets are jammed with thousands of people and, even firing into the air, the paratroopers are unable to get through.

Without doubt, another attempt will be made to clear the crowds from the party headquarters before midnight, the curfew time. This could lead to more casualties. Above the



Ring of steel: Soviet troops, who smashed down barricades to recapture Baku from nationalists, defending the Central Committee headquarters yesterday.

city helicopters are flying continually. Automatic and machine-gun fire can be heard.

I saw the windows of the Baksoviet underground station smashed by gunfire.

There is no doubt this was an organized shooting of peaceful people. Nobody in the republic, including V. Polyanchiko, the Second Secretary of the Central Committee of Azerbaijan, knew that a state of emergency had been declared. Possibly A. Vezirov, the former First Secretary, knew of this. But neither he nor E. Kafarova, the President of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet, could be found in the city...

As with ... Afghanistan, at most only a small circle of people in the Kremlin took the decision. With the experience of Tbilisi, sending in troops in this way is to repeat a crime.

This is all the more amazing because on Saturday and Sunday, 13 and 14 January, when the Armenian pogroms were going on in the town, Interior Ministry forces were given the order not to intervene. But now, when the situation in Baku is practically stabilized, the troops have gone in. It is ridiculous and criminal to speak now of groups of extremists.

The whole nation does not and did not want a state of

emergency. The leading figures in the republic, with the exception perhaps of Vezirov, agree.

It seems to me that the resort to arms and introduction of troops in this situation can only whip up emotions among the Azerbaijanis and lead to more deaths. People I talked to on the streets said they would not pardon that crime. There are dangers that Moscow's actions could turn the mood into an anti-Russian one.

Krainy, in another dispatch, described a meeting of a "military-internationalist" section of the Azerbaijan Komsomol, the youth movement, which

issued an open appeal to the soldiers and officers. It said:

"Brothers! We are addressing you at a difficult moment, when the patience of the people is exhausted. For two years now the rights to our native land have been threatened by Armenian extremists. All the time there have just been promises, which delayed a resolution of the issue.

"Azerbaijan is tired of injustice, of proving the rightness of its cause. It is not Azerbaijan that began this dirty business. It is not our nation which stirred up emotions, and responsibility should not be laid on our shoulders for the deaths and misery on both

sides. Brothers! Don't jump to conclusions, don't think you know the whole story... In a critical moment any provocation is possible. Think before you issue an order. Don't fire on the people! Remember that the sons of the nation fought selflessly with your fathers against fascism, defending Russian villages, humble Ukrainian homes, Belorussian woodlands. Together with many of you, we veterans shared a crust of bread in Afghanistan, each shielding the other from bullets.

"Today we, your brothers, say again: Don't shoot at the people. Show self-control and sense!"

Debate on role of military

Kremlin 'split' hampers Army

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Poor training, disagreement over the role of the Soviet Army in suppressing internal disturbances, and fears over deploying too many Interior Ministry troops to Azerbaijan all played a part in the Kremlin's initial failure to quell the ethnic rioting, according to Western experts.

Only last Tuesday General Mikhail Moiseyev, the Chief of the Soviet General Staff, told his NATO counterparts at a seminar in Vienna that the Army was only being used in Azerbaijan to guard key installations such as power stations. The suppression of the rioters was left to the MVD (Interior Ministry) troops and the KGB.

Yet by Friday it was clear that all three elements of the Soviet security forces, the MVD, the KGB and the Army, were involved in putting down the disturbances. The decision was inevitable because it became clear that the MVD and KGB were incapable of doing the job on their own.

It appears that the West may have overestimated both

the numbers and the capabilities of the MVD.

Official Western figures put the total of MVD troops in the Soviet Union at about 340,000 — 30 divisions equipped with tanks and armoured fighting vehicles.

Yet last year Mr Vadim Bakatin, the Soviet Interior Minister, said the total was 36,000 with only 18,000 available for deployment, the rest being tied up with guarding installations, such as railway tunnels. It is possible the minister was not including those on mundane guard duties, but if his figures are accurate, it means MVD troops are spread far more thinly than Western analysts previously assumed.

Based on the Soviet figures, it is possible that 60 per cent of the MVD troops are now deployed in the Transcaucasus, leaving other republics, also ripe for violent uprising, with the bare minimum of security units, according to Mr Craig Oliphant of the Soviet Studies Centre at Sandhurst.

The MVD troops, KGB special units and the Army

detachments, many of them with little or no training in anti-riot operations, are under the overall command in Azerbaijan of the military district commander, but each different element has its own chain of command.

The MVD troops, for example, are directly responsible to Colonel-General Yuri Shatalin, a highly experienced commander who fought in Afghanistan. He is reported to be in Azerbaijan at the centre of the command and control structure and is responsible to the Interior Minister.

Two years ago General Shatalin said the number of MVD troops should be increased to 67,000 but even that figure would not be sufficient to deal with the present problems.

General Moiseyev has said he does not believe that the Army should be used for internal suppression, but his view is not shared by General Dmitri Yazov, the Soviet Defence Minister, who has stated that the Army cannot be excluded from such duties.

The level of violence and

the threat of civil war in Azerbaijan forced the Kremlin's hand, just as it did in Tbilisi in Georgia last year, when a mixture of army and Interior Ministry troops were used to quell disturbances.

It led to 18 deaths and hundreds of wounded. Three commissions were set up to investigate the deaths because the soldiers used sharpened shovels and MVD troops fired poison gas canisters. The incident led to bitter attacks and counter-attacks between the commanding officers from the Army and MVD units involved.

The disturbances in the Soviet republics have forced the authorities to give more attention to anti-riot training. Last year MVD Spetsnaz (special forces) units were set up, consisting mainly of regulars from airborne forces and Afghan veterans. It is probable that some of these units are deployed in Azerbaijan.

There are about 230,000 KGB troops, but only some have received anti-riot training. The Army has no training in internal suppression.

Iran steps up appeals for Moscow to end violence

Tehran (AFP) — Iran stepped up its appeals to Moscow at the weekend to halt violence against Muslim Azerbaijanis and showed concern that fighting between Soviet troops and residents of Azerbaijan could have repercussions in Iran.

The appeals came as hundreds of Soviet Muslims in the border towns of Astarachai and Lenkoran crossed into the Iranian town of Astara for the third day, Iran, the official news agency, reported yesterday.

As new groups, including many children, women and elderly people, entered the north-western border town, a Soviet military helicopter began circling near the border river inside Soviet territory, Iran said from Astara.

Soviet Azerbaijanis arriving in Iran were quoted as saying that residents had set up roadblocks to prevent the entry of armed forces into Lenkoran, which has been controlled by the nationalist Azerbaijan Popular Front since January 11.

Two Soviet air force helicopters overflew the city after the people took over and opened fire on the demonstrators, who had gathered

at the city gates, the witnesses said.

Lenkoran, on the Caspian Sea coast, is about 125 miles south of Baku, Azerbaijan's capital, and 20 miles from the Iranian border.

Iran appears eager to see the crisis contained since Iranian Azerbaijan plays an important economic role in the region.

Officials on Saturday announced the closure of the Iranian border crossings at Astara and at Beglisavar, 115 miles south-west of Baku, after reports that thousands of Azerbaijanis were streaming into Iran.

Repressing the aspirations of the Muslim people of Azerbaijan and the use of violence would have difficult consequences for the Soviet Union, Mr Mahdi Karubi, the Speaker, told the Iranian Parliament yesterday.

ANKARA: Turkey took care at the weekend not to be drawn into the Caucasus crisis and endanger a booming trade with Moscow, although public anger mounted against the Soviet intervention in Azerbaijan and Western sympathy with the Armenians in their

feud with the Azerbaijanis (Basit Gurdilek writes).

Ankara's reminders to Moscow of the "natural affinity" the Turks feel towards their Azerbaijani kin were evidently resented by the Soviet leadership. But on Saturday, after the Soviet troops forced their way into Baku, Mr Albert Chernyshev, the Soviet Ambassador, met Mr Mesut Yilmaz, the Turkish Prime Minister, to inform him that "in view of the situation, it is of great importance for Turkey to keep to its realistic and balanced policy befitting the spirit of understanding and trust between the two countries".

Mr Chernyshev assured him that the Soviet troops were "acting with restraint and compassion" in bringing the situation under control as Mr Yilmaz had requested three days ago.

The Soviet message followed the declaration of independence by the strategically situated small autonomous republic of Nakhichevan, which has borders with Turkey and Iran, and its call for support from both countries.

35-nation summit to redefine European relations

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

An historic meeting of 35 nations to draw up a new relationship between Eastern and Western Europe is to be held later this year, marking the end of the post-Second World War era.

The main obstacle to the meeting, proposed by President Gorbachev last year, was removed on Saturday when European Community foreign ministers, meeting for dinner in Dublin, gave their agreement in principle. Previously, Britain and other countries had expressed caution.

It would seek to establish a new relationship between Western Europe, the now

largely dismantled Soviet bloc, the non-aligned countries of Europe, and the United States and Canada. Only Albania would be excluded, because it is not a member of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

The meeting would be the most important since the inception of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe process in Helsinki in 1975. At the time, it was seen by many as a ploy by Leonid Brezhnev to secure a reaffirmation of the European borders agreed at the end of the Second World War, in

return for concessions on human rights.

But it became the umbrella organization of a wide range of peace talks, including the current Conventional Forces in Europe talks in Vienna.

The meeting envisaged would evoke parallels with the Congress of Vienna of 1814, which was called to redraw the map of Europe after the downfall of Napoleon. It partly restored and adjusted the European order which existed before 1789.

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, is understood to have stressed the need for careful preparation. No date

has been set, but it is unlikely to be before East Germany's elections in May.

It would be complicated by the rapid pace of events in Eastern Europe and the possibility that East Germany's elections could intensify pressure for its reunification with West Germany.

M. Jacques Delors, the President of the European Commission, said after the Dublin meeting that the EC might have to study an application for membership by East Germany before 1993.

He said East Germany would have its place in the Community as soon as it

became irrevocably a pluralist democracy with an open economy, but acknowledged that this proposition had not met with unanimity.

While Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister of West Germany, agreed with M. Delors, M. Roland Dumas of France thought the question premature. Mr Hans van den Broek, the Dutch Foreign Minister, opposed East Germany being given preference over other East European countries which may eventually want to join.

Although the meeting did not take decisions on aid, it was agreed that a substantial

effort to help the emerging democracies would be needed. Mr Hurd predicted that agreement would be reached soon.

Britain is expected to announce new aid measures of its own today, extending its "know-how funds" for Poland and Hungary to include other East European countries. The funds, worth £50 million for Poland and £25 million for Hungary, are designed to help East European governments move more into line with the Western model.

Training is to be offered in democratic institutions, legal systems, privatization and business management.

Ukrainians link hands for unity

Kiev (AP) — Tens of thousands of Ukrainians joined hands yesterday in a joyous commemoration of ethnic unity marking the brief existence of a united, independent Ukraine over 70 years ago.

Organizers of the human chain, the leaders of the popular movement Rukh, said it stretched from the Ukrainian capital of Kiev to the western Ukrainian city of Lvov and involved about 100,000 people.

That could not be confirmed, but in Kiev, block after block of the city centre was lined with smiling Ukrainians holding hands and waving yellow-and-blue national flags. Many greeted each other with "Long live the Ukraine," and raised three fingers in imitation of the republic's three-pronged crest.

There was no effort to make the chain stretch to the republic's eastern, more Russified part. The chain appeared to be Rukh's most successful show of strength.

In Kiev, the crowd included children and old people, as well as representatives of a wide range of groups. Banners proclaiming "For a United, Independent Ukraine," and "The Ukraine Hasn't Died Yet" flew alongside hundreds of Ukrainian flags.

Rukh officials say one of their main tactics is to teach people that the Ukraine has a

US asks for show of Soviet restraint

From Susan Elliott, Washington

The United States hardened its official stance at the weekend towards the use of violence by Soviet troops to quell ethnic unrest in Azerbaijan, but stopped short of openly criticizing the move.

"We regret the already heavy loss of life and call upon all involved to act with restraint in the use of force and to show respect for the rule of law and the rights of the individuals involved," a White House spokesman said on Saturday. "The United States is monitoring the complicated and dangerous situation in Azerbaijan carefully and with concern."

The White House early last week openly endorsed the deployment of Soviet troops by President Gorbachev. So far, there are no public signs that the Soviet Army attack has strained relations between Mr Gorbachev and the Bush Administration, although the latest White House statement was cautionary in tone.

"It is, of course, the responsibility of any government to maintain order and protect its citizens," it said. "The effort to establish order should not, however, become a cloak for the abridgement of the exercise of political rights."

US officials have voiced concern about the bloody battles between the Christian Armenians and the Muslim Azerbaijanis in the southern Caucasus.

However, they appear more bothered by accelerating calls for independence from Lithuania and other Baltic states in the Soviet Union and Mr Gorbachev's future.

British view: Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, made it clear yesterday that the British Government understood Moscow's decision to use force in Azerbaijan (Andrew McEwen writes).

"We start from a principle that restoration of law and order in a desperate situation of communal conflict is necessary and reasonable," he said on the BBC radio programme, *The World This Week*. He added that Britain would urge Moscow to respect human rights agreements while restoring order.

Mr Waldegrave arrived in Moscow yesterday for a five-day visit and will meet Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, tomorrow.

He was asked if he thought the Soviet Union might be disintegrating. "I would have thought not," he replied, describing the situation in Azerbaijan as one of "desperate inter-communal violence... which should be capable of solutions". He also discouraged speculation that there might be serious implications for the West if some Soviet republics broke away.

Mr Waldegrave is to hold talks with three deputy foreign ministers, Mr Yuli Vorontsov and Mr Viktor Karpov, both arms control experts, and Mr Anatoly Adamishin, who deals with human rights. He will also meet Jewish refugees and Ukrainian religious leaders.

Exiled princess declares plans to return to Romania

From Christopher Walker, Bucharest

The Romanian monarchy, forced into exile by the Communists, took a graceful but cautious step back towards public life yesterday when Princess Margarita, eldest of the five daughters of King Michael, announced plans to return to live in the country.

At an emotional press conference in a Bucharest hotel suite, the Princess repeatedly denied that her visit here with her sister, Princess Sophie, was designed to try to restore the monarchy overthrown in 1947, when the King, now aged 68, was forced to abdicate at pistol-point. Fielding politically loaded

questions with regal aplomb, the Princess, aged 41 and a qualified sociologist who lives with her father in Geneva, spoke of him as "an amputated soul".

Describing his intentions, the Princess said: "The thing my father has wanted for 42 years is to come back as a Romanian. That is his only wish, but when and how I do not know."

From the moment the two princesses arrived to an enthusiastic welcome from a group of monarchists at Bucharest airport on January 18, their visit has demonstrated a warmth for the King that few observers were aware of during the dark days of the Ceausescu tyranny. The elegant Princess,

whose suite was besieged after she issued a discreet invitation to journalists to join her for coffee, said she and her sister would report to their father — the founder of a Swiss electronics firm — on "concrete steps" which could be taken to help the country.

"Our role is non-political and I will not answer political questions," she insisted. "I would say there has been a huge explosion in the country and the pieces need to be put together again. The people have been traumatized and this shows."

Already at least one of the 13 new political parties here has included the return of the constitutional monarchy in its platform. Others are expected to take up the return of

King Michael as a possible stabilizing factor at a time of political chaos, which has come close to anarchy.

The Princess told how after being banished, the family had started life in humble circumstances on a dilapidated small-holding in England breeding chickens. Among the audience were a number of Romanian journalists who spoke warmly of the King, credited by historians to have played a much greater part than the Communists in breaking with the Nazis in 1944 although until the revolution, Romanian history books told a different story.

"January 18 was the most important day in my life. For the first time we have come to know ourselves. If possible, I intend to return

to live here. I am a Romanian," explained the multi-lingual Princess, who six months ago gave up her job with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization to campaign from Switzerland against the Ceausescu dictatorship.

"I do not have enough words to express the disgust and horror at what has happened during the past 40 years," she added. "My father has always said he will come back if called. Most importantly, it is for the Romanians to express their feelings."

Her family is involved in a bitter legal dispute over the throne with Prince Paul, a Paris arts dealer, who has also returned but whose royal claims they deny.

cultivate support for greater Ukrainian sovereignty, or even independence.

On January 22, 1918, amidst the shifting boundaries that followed the collapse of the Russian and Austro-Hungarian empires, the Ukraine's Central Council declared a newly united and independent Western and Eastern Ukraine. It lasted only a few weeks before it succumbed to Bolshevik troops.

THE CHANGING FACE OF COMMUNISM

Krenz loses membership card amid big purge

From Anne McElvoy, East Berlin

Herr Egon Krenz, the former leader of the East German communist party, has been stripped of his membership in the beleaguered party's single biggest purge to date.

At a crisis sitting lasting 18 hours to rescue the party from collapse, an arbitration committee decided to expel Herr Krenz and 13 other former leading functionaries. Herr Egon Krenz, Herr Krenz's predecessor as leader, was expelled in December.

No reason was given for the decision apart from a brief statement from the party's ruling executive which said: "Every decision was conscientiously examined."

Herr Krenz, who was ousted from his post as leader last month after widespread popular protest, told *The Times* yesterday that he was "shocked and bitter" at the decision which he believed to be "undemocratic".

"I am deeply disappointed that my own party should deal with someone in this way who was the architect of reform," he said at his government-owned home in the suburbs of Pankow. "With the party in its current state I suppose one should be surprised at nothing but I admit that I am shocked."

He was summoned to the party headquarters late on Saturday afternoon and kept waiting there until the early hours of yesterday morning when he was called before the committee and informed of the decision. "I tried to defend myself but this was not accepted. The decision had already been made," he said.

Herr Krenz denied that his expulsion was connected to corruption or abuse of office, charges on which many of his former Politburo colleagues have been arrested. He also said he would protest against the ruling.

Herr Günter Schabowski, the East Berlin party chief, and Herr Kurt Hager, the former Minister for Ideology, have also had their membership terminated. All were Politburo members under

Herr Honecker but plotted together in October to have him removed and replaced by Herr Krenz.

The purge is a sign of the party's desperation to rid itself of the legacy of the old leadership and the half-hearted reforms which followed and comes after criticism from within its own ranks that it was failing to act quickly enough to renew itself before the May elections.

The meeting also decided to drop the old name of Socialist Unity Party and will go into the election campaign under the new name, Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS). The old symbol of a handshake, signifying the forced merger with the Social Democrats in 1990, will also disappear.

Herr Gregor Gysi, the leader, refused to give a reason for the expulsions but admitted that they had been "controversial". "We were called on to take more radical action," he said. He also said opposition groups should be allowed to take a more active part in governing the country until the elections and admitted that there was substantial opposition within the party to reforms.

The departure of Herr Krenz, who was responsible for security in Herr Honecker's Politburo, is also intended to distance the new party from the state security apparatus.

● BONN: Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, wants to set up a joint government committee with the East German Government provided the elections on May 6 are free and properly conducted, he said at the weekend (Ian Murray writes).

The aim would be to have permanent consultations on political co-ordination.

The offer takes even further the West German Government's plans for setting up structures aimed at leading to reunification — plans which the latest Infas-Institute poll show have 62 per cent support from the public and which have given Chancellor Kohl a popularity boost.

Mongolian protest demands sweeping reforms

Ulan Bator (Reuter) — Thousands of Mongolians defied a government ban on demonstrations yesterday and massed in a central Ulan Bator square to demand human rights, freedom and sweeping political changes.

About 7,000 protesters, braving extreme cold, crowded around a rostrum in the centre of Sukhbaatar Square to cheer leaders of an opposition group as they made anti-government speeches.

"The Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister are responsible for the terrible state of affairs," the leader of the dissident group declared.

It was the fourth time protesters had flocked to the square since early last month. The Government brought in a ban on unauthorized protests last Thursday.

Mr Fanjasuren Zorig, leader of the opposition Mongolian Democratic Union, told the crowd the ban on demonstrations was unconstitutional and undemocratic.

"You have come here on your own, not because you were forced but because you wanted to come," Mr Zorig, a lecturer at the Mongolian State University, shouted into a microphone on the rostrum.

"This is a truly democratic movement," he said to cheers from protesters.

Security appeared lax, al-

though a few uniformed police and army officers mingled with the crowd. Some security personnel filmed protesters with antiquated cine-cameras.

Demonstrators held banners calling for an end to special privileges for the Communist Party elite and for a five-day working week.

Mr Zorig and other dissident leaders stopped short of demanding the overthrow of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party. He said that the Government had agreed to recognize the Democratic Union.

Isolated Mongolia, wedged between China and the Soviet Union, is three times the size of France but with little more than two million people. After the Soviet Union, it was the first nation to declare itself a communist state.

Western diplomats in Ulan Bator said that the Democratic Union was the biggest challenge to Mongolia's leadership in recent history.

Last Sunday, about 5,000 people participated in Mongolia's biggest demonstration in recent history.

The fledgling democracy movement was born only about one month ago, encouraged by the crumbling of communism in Eastern Europe. Its first official meeting was on December 10, according to one diplomat.



Voice of dissent: A leader of the Mongolian Democratic Union addressing a 7,000-strong rally in Ulan Bator yesterday which called for the end of Communist Party privileges. Last week, the Government banned such unauthorized demonstrations.

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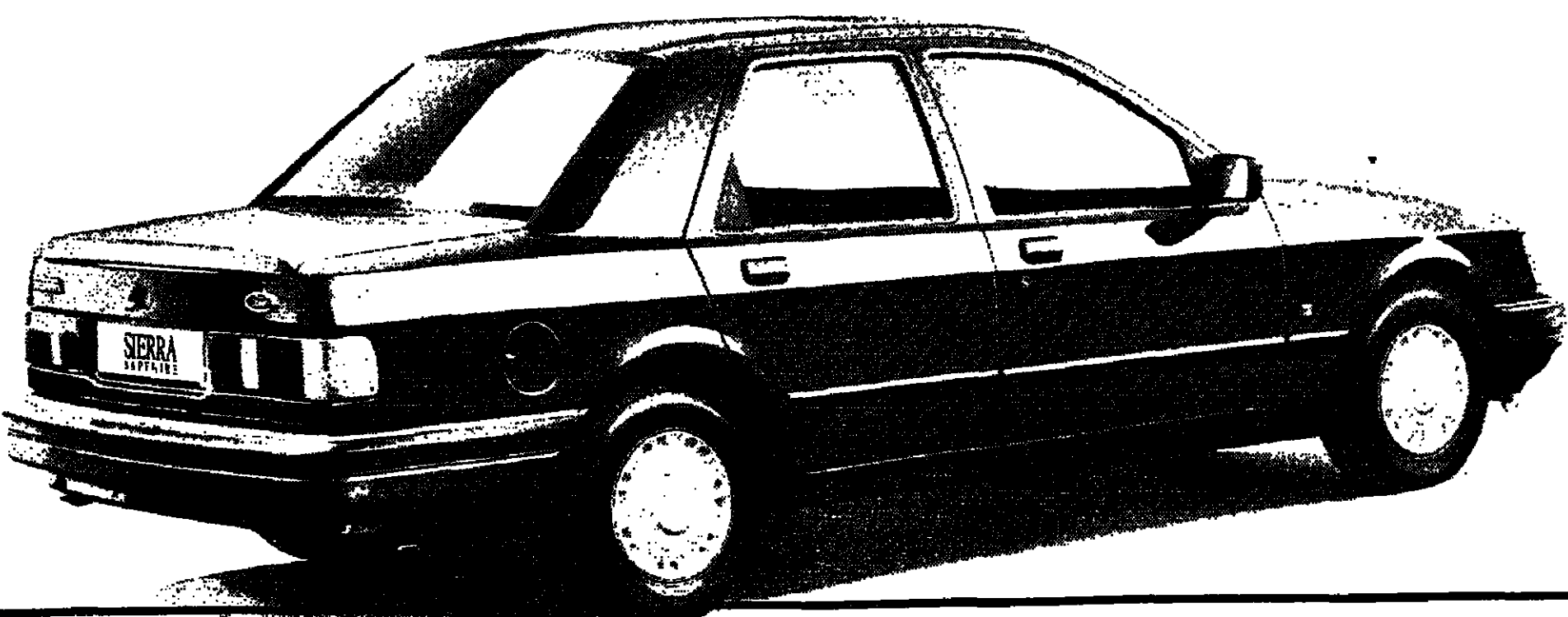
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Serbian-Slovene rancour augurs party break-up

From Dassa Trevisan and John Holland, Belgrade

Serbian and Slovene delegates at an extraordinary meeting of the Yugoslav League of Communists continued a noisy and acrimonious debate yesterday over party reforms which could result in a split.

The 150-member Slovene delegation met in closed conference yesterday evening, with younger members pressing for an immediate walkout which would surely destroy the fiction of Yugoslav party unity promoted by the Serbs.

Recognition of that was reflected in public opinion polls conducted before the congress, with 80 per cent of those polled saying the national party was incapable of pulling the country out of its economic and political crisis.

Mr Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian President, and Mr Milan Kucan, the Slovene party leader, clashed yesterday in the conference hall, while Mr Zivko Pregl, the federal Deputy Prime Minister, was telling reporters next door that the Government of Mr Ante Markovic, the Prime Minister, would proceed with reforms regardless of the outcome of the congress.

"The Government won't have it that quarrels in an organization which only represents 10 per cent of the population should set policy," he said.

A government commission is to convene on January 25 to redraft a proposed amendment to the Constitution which would empower the Government to implement its package of far-reaching economic reforms.

The Belgrade daily *Borba* wrote yesterday that "the greatest value of this congress is that the party, which had created the system to suit itself and which had handed the country in its deepest crisis over, can never be the same again".

Mr Milosevic, who began an economic blockade of Slovenia in December in retaliation for the republic's refusal to allow a demonstration in its capital, Ljubljana, accused Slovenia of aiming to "dissolve the party into six autonomous organiza-

tions". He added insult to injury by saying Slovene leaders could then "rule their own fiefdom estates".

Mr Milosevic said as long as the Slovene leadership supported Albanian separatists in Kosovo, "there can be no co-operation".

The idea of a special congress was conceived last summer by Mr Milosevic to press the party into accepting a centralized, authoritarian structure in which the Serbs would have the leading voice. However, the idea has clearly backfired.

With Serbian communist power on the wane and the ascendancy of the Markovic Government, the Serbian and Slovene communist factions are divided over whether to reinforce Serbian-sponsored central authority at the federal level.

The Slovenes advocate extending the autonomy of parties in the six republics still further, effectively confederalizing the party and removing their duty to respect national party decisions.

With the party already playing a marginal role, a divided congress could signal the beginning of the end of 45 years of communist domination in society, and it would be a fatal blow to the unity which has existed in name only.

The Slovenes' platform clearly calls for more freedom than Mr Milosevic has been willing to accept. In addition, the Slovenes still feel they might be outvoted and have threatened to walk out if their platform of democratic reforms, promoted over the past two years, is rejected.

The principle of political pluralism is generally accepted in Yugoslavia.

However, Slovenia's aggressive insistence on full sovereignty of the parties in the republics and of the republics themselves is still rejected by the Serbs.

One Serbian official said that, despite his recent setbacks, Mr Milosevic "still feels strong, and that is dangerous because he is capable of new adventures".

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PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR, ASSESSES THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF MAYOR MARION BARRY'S FALL FROM GRACE

Shaken Washington looks for a new beginning

One in six Washingtonians will be working today for a new boss.

For 11 years Mayor Marion Barry has dispensed bread, circuses and other, more modern, forms of patronage to the mainly black population of the nation's capital. Now, following his arrest on drugs charges last week, he must concentrate instead on staying out of jail.

The jobs within Washington's bloated welfare economy will be little changed by the unprecedented temporary power transfer from Mayor Barry, a charismatic 53-year-old former civil rights leader, to Miss Carol Thompson, a cautious 38-year-old female civil servant. But city politics — and also Washington's "other politics" at the White House and Capitol Hill — have been shaken badly.

It is more than three days since Mayor Barry was filmed by FBI cameras smoking "crack" with a police-informant girlfriend in the city's expensive Vista hotel. But the full impact of the unprecedented "sting" operation against one of America's most prominent black leaders is still being assessed.

The saga of a flawed hero brought low by sex and drugs has enjoyed a predictably wide retelling throughout the US. But in Washington it is not only a local story. Its subject matter has roused all the latent insecurities of a municipality which is one of the most famous in the world but only since 1974 has been allowed to rule itself.

The US capital has for 16 years been an uncomfortably shared bed. It is home to one political

culture that is barely teenaged and another that is one of history's most mature and sophisticated.

It has been an ill-matched marriage. The local District of Columbia government is a one-party fiefdom — more Democrat than any county in America. The US federal Government, with its elaborate checks and balances, does not trust the politicians of DC but often prefers ignoring them to risking a racial conflict.

The result over the years has been the piles of bottles, needles and decaying brick befalling the land around Washington's marble monuments and

6 Piles of bottles, needles and decaying brick befall the land around the capital's marble monuments

halls. The streets radiating from the Capitol — originally put under federal control precisely in order to eliminate the mob rule of contemporary London and Paris — are now free-fire zones for drug traders and home to the fastest-moving murder statistics in the country.

The fashionable ambition for the 1990s, fanned by the rhetoric of the Rev Jesse Jackson, is for Washington DC to have not merely "home rule" but the status of a full state of the union. But that seems an increasingly distant wish.

Once before in its history the

District of Columbia escaped direct congressional rule only to allow the follies of an elected tyrant to force it back into the fold. Many now fear that Mayor Barry's corruption may have the same effect as "Boss" Shepherd's in the 1870s.

Much depends on how Mayor Barry plays his hand over the coming weeks. If he were quickly to resign, the air would be clear for a competition to succeed him in November. His close aides fear, however, that success could then too quickly go to the DC Council chairman, Mr David Clarke, who is white.

If, as seems more likely, Mayor Barry decides to hold on, those wanting to inherit his substantial political mantle will face the acute difficulty of opposing their mentor without rubbing his nose in the rising pile of his dirt. Despite this latest revelation — which comes on top of financial corruption by senior staff, decaying city services and earlier drugs allegations — the Mayor still has a substantial street following.

Groups of black youths around his pink-and-white suburban home in south-east Washington were singing yesterday about whether it was worse for the city's top anti-drugs campaigner to be caught smoking "crack" or for the FBI to have lured him to a sex-and-drugs honeytrap. "I am upset about the drugs," said one church worker, "but I am mad angry about the set-up. I would vote for him again." That was a common view on radio talk shows too.

Only a new administration —

with a mission and mandate for reform — stands a real chance of getting the resources and the national support to deal with Washington's ubiquitous crises. But while most political commentators are writing off the Mayor and hoping for a better tomorrow, there is still a slim chance that he could stay in November's electoral race. The



Mr Barry: Astonishing degree of confidence since scandal broke. current uncertainty may have an important effect on the prospect that Mr Jackson will succeed him. Few think that, despite frequent hints of interest, the would-be first black President of the United States really wants to be Mayor of Washington. He had long been happy to say that he would not challenge Mr Barry. If, however, the Mayor withdrew in circum-

stances which left the black populist cause in urgent need of a saviour, Mr Jackson would risk the taint of cowardice if he held back.

National political leaders are watching the Barry affair in mostly silent fascination. Democrat leaders would love to see the fiery Jackson extremism sink into Washington's municipal swamp. In the 1992 election year that could be a big boost to their finding a centrist candidate to mount a serious challenge to President Bush.

The Republicans, who politically appointed federal prosecutor, Mr Jay Stephens, masterminded the "sting" against Mayor Barry, want to keep Mr Jackson on the national stage as long as possible. Even, however, the most sophisticated walkers of the line between law and politics find it hard to fathom precisely how new charges against Mr Barry might affect the bigger Jackson question.

In contrast to the caution and disarray of his fellow politicians, Mayor Barry's own demeanour has been astonishingly confident since the scandal broke. In his only court appearance, on Friday, he stood before Judge Deborah Robinson as though it were he who was about to sentence her for heinous crimes.

As he stood against the courtroom's green marble wall he looked like an expensive black ornament on a Beverly Hills coffee table. He sneered, smiled, and mocked the newspaper artists in the jury box — the perfect self-styled hero. One the most cynical

were impressed. Many observers thought he must have cooked up some extraordinary deal with the prosecution.

For only 16 hours earlier, according to the published affidavits which everyone had read, he had taken a very different starring role. He had been rounding off a day of political action with a visit to the silver-walled seventh-floor corridor of the Vista Hotel, only a few minutes away from his office. There he had arranged to meet Miss Rasheeda Moore, a black model and old friend.

On his arrival she, in turn, had introduced him to another

I am upset about the drugs, but I am mad angry about the set-up. I would vote for him again

woman. When he had asked for "crack" the other woman brought it from the bathroom. The Mayor had made a cash payment and the pair had smoked a pipe for about an hour.

Meanwhile in the adjoining rooms, as Miss Moore's children were being watched by FBI baby sitters, FBI film-makers were shooting a scene which ambitious federal prosecutors had dreamed about for years. Only, it is said, as the Mayor was removing his shirt in order to have sex with Miss Moore, did the filming stop. FBI arresting officers then entered the room to take the Mayor of

Washington DC into custody. Mr Barry, the Mississippi farm-worker's son, chemistry graduate, student civil rights leader, Mayor and sometime vice-presidential hopeful, had fallen a stupid victim to two of Washington's most crass illusions, the invulnerability of the political office-holder and the invincibility of the cocaine-user.

He had made himself political dead meat, certainly according to the majority view in the mainly white Washington of newspaper columnists and television pundits.

It was argued at the weekend that if the Mayor were to plead that he had been "entrapped" (that is, lured into a crime he would not otherwise have committed), the prosecution would then be allowed to call even more politically damaging evidence to show that he was an habitual user of "crack".

One of his favourite chants to DC schoolchildren, recorded as recently as last November, was: "If it's to be, it's up to me, keep myself drug-free! Keep myself drug-free!"

Out in the streets, the young blacks of Washington also criticize their Mayor's hypocrisy. But their overall verdict is more equivocal. Pride and political insecurity bring the wish that, somehow, he may have the last laugh on his police pursuers.

By the lift on the seventh floor of the Vista Hotel there stands a Hilton holiday advertisement offering "Bright ideas for great escapes".

Some of Mayor Barry's men still hope he may have one.

Plea for Britain to speed Hong Kong reform pace

From Jonathan Brande, Hong Kong, and Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

Dame Lydia Dunn, the senior member of the Hong Kong Executive Council, is to urge Mrs Thatcher tomorrow to introduce faster democracy even if it means a serious dispute with China.

She is expected to tell the Prime Minister that the colony accepts that any unilateral moves made by Britain could anger China. "If we in Hong Kong are ready to take that risk, then you in Britain should be prepared to give us the democracy we want," a Hong Kong legislative source said yesterday.

Her visit to Britain was hurriedly arranged and is seen as a final attempt by Hong Kong's legislators to influence British policy before an announcement is made on steps towards democracy.

It was prompted by last week's visit to Hong Kong by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. Although he met less opposition than expected, Hong Kong's legislators were concerned that he might concede too much to China. He made it clear that he was holding back an announcement on the number of mem-

bers of the Legislative Council to be directly elected in the 1991 and 1995 elections while seeking an understanding with the Chinese. He said "the main prize" would be a system which would survive the transition to Chinese sovereignty in 1997 without being changed much.

This message, the main theme of his visit, was seen by some legislators as a new way of expressing the former Foreign Office policy of "convergence" with China. The Office of the Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils (Omelco) urged Mr Hurd to make his decision independently from China.

It pressed its own proposals under which half the Legislative Council seats would be directly elected by 1997. China has not yet taken a final decision on the post-1997 arrangements but wants a much slower pace.

Dame Lydia's visit was agreed by Omelco after talks with Mr Hurd, who said he hoped to make an announcement on democracy "within weeks". She will be joined in London today by Mr Allen

Lee, her counterpart in the Legislative Council.

In Hong Kong, there was an angry reaction yesterday to a Chinese-imposed timetable for democratic development which activists said ignored both British and local views on how the territory should be governed after it reverts to Chinese control.

Hong Kong drafters of the Basic Law, the post-1997 mini-constitution, were jeered and greeted with cries of "shame" this weekend as they returned from Canton where the timetable was drawn up.

Mr Yeung Sum, liberal spokesman of the Joint Committee for the Promotion of Democratic Government, said he was disappointed in the outcome which allows just 30 per cent of the 60-member legislature to be directly elected in 1997, and which limits to 15 per cent the number of legislators holding foreign passports or with the right of abode in a foreign country.

Mr Yeung said: "The model cannot reflect the wishes of people in Hong Kong. Hong Kong people understand that,

without democracy, the protection of human rights will be very difficult."

Chinese delegates say the model may still be altered before the Basic Law is published in the spring, but Hong Kong activists believe only pressure from Britain will bring about any change.

In a separate development, Britain, Hong Kong and the United States will attempt tomorrow and on Wednesday to resolve a dispute over the Vietnamese boat people. A meeting of the Steering Committee of the 18-nation Conference on Indochina Refugees has been rearranged after a delay of six days.

Washington, which opposes Britain's policy of repatriating boat people against their will, is understood to have suggested a compromise. It would withdraw its objections if Britain delayed the programme for a year.

Whitehall sources said Britain's aim at the talks would be to maintain the deterrent. A long delay could undermine it and encourage more boat people to set sail in March, when conditions improve.

Rubbish mounts in Athens streets



An Athenian priest squeezing past piles of rubbish that have been left on the streets by a 13-day strike of municipal workers. There are an estimated 80,000 tonnes of litter in the Greek capital and the stoppage is expected to enter its third week.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Troops kill 20 in Kashmir protest

Srinagar (Reuters) — At least 20 people were killed and scores injured yesterday after Indian troops were ordered to shoot on sight to enforce a curfew in Kashmir, police said.

Thousands of demonstrators thronged Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir state, shouting pro-independence slogans and reciting Koran verses, defying a curfew imposed since December, witnesses said. They were met by steel-helmeted troops, some in armoured personnel carriers, firing guns and tear gas. Police said troops in some quarters of the city had come under fire from militants among the protesters. Officials said it was the worst outbreak of violence in India's only Muslim-majority state.

Quest to oust Aoun

Beirut — President Hrawi of Lebanon travelled to Damascus with top political and military aides yesterday to ask for Syrian help to evict General Michel Aoun, the rebel Christian leader, from the presidential palace in east Beirut. There was no official communiqué after the first round of talks with President Assad of Syria, but reliable political sources said military means to oust the general were discussed. The visit underlined the Syrian-backed Government's impatience over General Aoun's opposition to an Arab League-sponsored peace plan for Lebanon.

Shuttle lands safely

Washington — The US space shuttle Columbia landed safely in darkness early on Saturday morning after a record 11-day rescue mission (Susan Elliott writes). During their trip, the five astronauts travelled 4.5 million miles while orbiting the world and retrieved an 11-tonne satellite the size of a bus that had been drifting gradually towards Earth.

Island violence grows

Kieta, Bougainville Island — Four villagers were beaten up publicly by security forces yesterday as the Papua New Guinea Government continued to attempt to suppress rebels opposed to the reopening of one of the world's biggest copper mines (Robert Cockburn writes). Australia pledged \$AUS12 million (£6 million) in military aid at the weekend to support Port Moresby and threatened to mobilize its own military to evacuate an estimated 1,000 Australians.

Stanwyck dies at 82

Los Angeles (Reuters) — Barbara Stanwyck, aged 82, the film actress who won acclaim playing hardened, selfish women in roles that gained her four Oscar nominations, died of a heart attack on Saturday, a hospital spokeswoman said. The star of *Double Indemnity*, *Stella Dallas*, *Sorry, Wrong Number* and *Ball of Fire* was honoured with a special Academy Award in 1982 for lifetime achievement. Stanwyck appeared in 83 films. *Obituary*, page 14

Lusaka anti-apartheid meeting

ANC gears up for talks with Pretoria

From Jan Raath, Lusaka

The vaulted ceilings of the Holy Cross Anglican Cathedral in the luxurious eastern suburbs of Lusaka, flushed with the summer rains, were spread over an unusual congregation yesterday.

Members of the African National Congress were taking part in an official prayer service for South Africa in the Zambian capital, with the movement appearing to be in a confident mood.

About 50 South Africans — drawn from the ANC's national executive committee, the eight veteran nationalists, led by Mr Walter Sisulu, the

former secretary-general, who were released from jail in September, Cosatu, the South African trade union movement, and the grassroots Mass Democratic Movement — finished yesterday a crucial meeting to draft strategy for the rapid changes at home.

By early evening, no announcements had been made on the conclusions of the meeting, but sources here report a striking degree of unanimity between the South African-based leadership and its exiled hierarchy, and it is believed that the meeting has prepared the movement for

anticipated negotiations with the Government of President de Klerk.

The meeting was due to have ended on Saturday but ran into its fourth day as the executives covered not only their own agenda, but also proposals sent to the meeting by telephone and fax by Nelson Mandela, the ANC's rallying symbol, as he awaits his release from the Victor Verster Prison at Paarl, near Cape Town.

Officials assert that the movement will not budge from its preconditions for talks — the release of political

prisoners, the unbanning of restricted organizations, the removal of troops from townships, and the cessation of political trials and executions, all conditions contained in the ANC's Harare Declaration which was issued in August and adopted by the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Commonwealth and the United Nations.

The declaration also sets out the principles for a path to a democratic South Africa and it is said the meeting has concentrated on honing these — a ceasefire, the basis,

mechanism and adoption of a non-racial constitution, the role of the international community, the establishment of an interim government and the lifting of sanctions — into fine detail, to enable the ANC to go aggressively into talks.

"The preconditions are non-negotiable," said a nationalist source.

"De Klerk has moved quickly on the rudiments of the preconditions, and it remains to be seen when they will be fulfilled.

"When they are, we should be good and ready."

De Klerk ushering in era of compromise

From Gavin Bell, Johannesburg

After decades of hostilities, the South African Government and the African National Congress are emerging from their trenches and surveying the no-man's-land between them. There is considerable nervousness on both sides, but there are tangible signs that a breakthrough towards peace talks is imminent.

The ANC, which celebrated its 75th birthday this month, is suddenly faced with the prospect of the reformist Government of President de Klerk accepting its preconditions for negotiations on a new constitution aimed at power-sharing in a post-apartheid society. How to respond to Pretoria's initiative, and to avoid being outmanoeuvred, are subjects of intense debate in an organization which is rarely given to compromise.

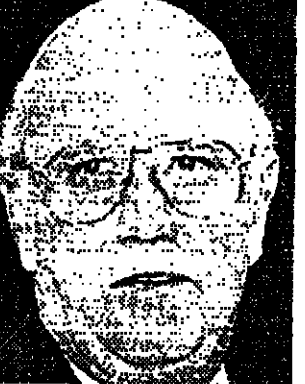
Only a few months ago, senior ANC officials did not believe there was even a remote chance that the Gov-

ernment would agree to their conditions — removing the ban on anti-apartheid organizations, releasing political prisoners, lifting the state of emergency and withdrawing troops from black townships.

Now Mr de Klerk is expected to accede to these demands during the forthcoming session of Parliament, which begins on February 2, in exchange for an ANC commitment to seek peaceful solutions. If the deadlock is broken, it will be due in large measure to Nelson Mandela, the veteran ANC leader serving his 28th year in prison for treason.

After discussions with Mr de Klerk, at least four Cabinet ministers, and ANC comrades, Mandela has reshaped strategies on both sides. Implicit in his peace formula is that an immediate transfer of power is unrealistic, and sharing power as an interim measure will have to be negotiated. This

view is understood to be contained in a 10-point document submitted by Mandela to the ANC executive meeting which ended in Lusaka yesterday. Sources report a diver-



Mr de Klerk: Pre-conditions for negotiations accepted.

gence of views within the ANC, along with profound anxiety about losing the initiative to the Government and being caught flat-footed when invitations to the negotiating

table are distributed. Having put the ball in the Government's court, it is suddenly scrambling to meet a return volley.

After 30 years in exile, the ANC is a formidable but flawed force. Its popular support in South Africa has increased to the point where its following is probably greater than that of all other opposition groups together. As the once seemingly immutable forces of apartheid disintegrate, the ban on the ANC has become unenforceable.

But it is riven by internal conflicts, and morale is dangerously low in its military wing, *Umkhonto we Sizwe* (Spear of the Nation). Shooting incidents among ANC cadres in Lusaka last year led to threats by the Zambian Government to disarm the guerrillas.

The ANC claims to have more than 12,000 members in exile in Zambia, Angola and

Tanzania, about half of them guerrillas, but Mr Alfred Nzo, the acting President, acknowledged last week that the movement did not have the capacity to intensify its low-key armed struggle. The military wing does not share the enthusiasm of ANC politicians and diplomats for dialogue with Pretoria.

In the absence of Mr Oliver Tambo, its president, recovering from a brain stroke, conflicting views are expressed by Mr Thabo Mbeki, the head of the international department, and Mr Chris Hani, the military wing's chief of staff. The indications are that Mr Hani's influence is waning, and the more moderate and pragmatic Mr Mbeki is gaining ground.

Pretoria is well aware of the divisions, and may be preparing to exploit them. The ANC is also under pressure from the Soviet Union to prepare for a negotiated settlement.

State of siege in Haiti

By Alan Tomlinson

President Prosper Avril of Haiti has declared a 30-day state of siege, and police in the capital, Port-au-Prince, are reported to have arrested and beaten up a number of civilian opposition leaders.

The emergency was announced on Saturday, 24 hours after a colonel in the presidential guard was shot dead, along with his wife and two other people, as they drove home in their car.

The military regime gave a warning that it would take all necessary steps to put an end to escalating violence, which it said was threatening the transition to a democratically elected government.

Lieutenant-General Avril was placed in power by soldiers of the presidential guard who overthrew his military predecessor, General Henri Namphy, as President in September 1988.

Last April, the same loyal soldiers saved the general from a barracks rebellion which left Haiti's 7,000-man Army dangerously divided. After much hesitation, which led to public protest, General Avril finally named October this year as the date for a first round of presidential elections. But arrests and beatings of opposition activists and suspicion that the undisciplined Army is involved in a serious crime wave have increased public doubts about the general's true intentions.

As the state of siege was announced, police were reported to have arrested at least five opposition politicians and beaten up some of them.

Those arrested include Mr Serge Gilles, a Social Democrat, and Mr Hubert de Ronceray, a Conservative — prominent members of two leading political coalitions.

The politics of rubbish

Britain's war on street grime is being privatized, but, Tom Bower reports, not all the troops are happy

Looking out of his office window in Bloomsbury, central London, Michael Blundy says he feels "absolutely disgusted". Three floors below, strewn across the footpath leading to the portals of the British Museum, are discarded cardboard boxes, newspapers, burst plastic bags and the colourful debris of fast-food meals. "It's deeply depressing that we have to put up with this degradation," complains Blundy, who has more than passing interest in what Sir Geoffrey Howe recently condemned as Britain's "grime", "shoddiness" and "scruffiness in public places".

Blundy is the general manager of Cory Onyx, a new Anglo-French group which, under the 1988 Local Government Act, is seeking five-year contracts from Britain's local authorities to collect refuse and sweep the streets. So far, it is estimated that 20 per cent of the 156 local authority refuse contracts put out to tender have been awarded to private companies. The increasing success of private contractors promises to transform the issue of our squalid streets into a new political battleground.

Like the other five leading private companies offering to perform a better job at lower costs than local councils' own labour forces, Blundy claims to offer "expertise in waste management which many local authorities cannot match". So far, Blundy has won three contracts — in Bromley, Bethnal Green and Lowestoft. He is optimistic about his prospects in the current round of 78 tenders, where he will compete "in more than 50 areas".

But the tendering process has provoked about 150 appeals to the Department of the Environment from unsuccessful private companies. They claim that the councils, mostly ruled by Labour, tend to favour their own workforces. For example, according to Pierre Carneau, the executive director of SITA, another big French company which boasts "over 800 city cleaning contracts world-wide", his tender to clean Knowsley, near Liverpool, was 20 per cent lower

Cory Onyx's attraction, which it shares with its French competitor SITA, is that both companies are responsible for maintaining Paris as an enviably spotless city. In the eagerness of all Britain's political parties to achieve a similar goal, even Bryan Gould, the Labour Party's spokesman on the environment, acknowledges that he is "no longer opposed in principle to privatization" if it leads to cleaner cities. Blundy wishes that those sentiments were more widely shared, but his irritation is tempered by the knowledge that a time-bomb is ticking under one of the last redoubts of the extreme left.

According to unpublished data collected last week by McGillivray in Camden, the council's former workers are on the verge of hitting the accumulated 30 per cent "defect level" (that is, being unable to carry out 30 per cent of their designated workload) on their contract to clean the borough. Under the Act, that failure will trigger an automatic inquiry by the district auditor. When the details become public, the controversy is certain to embarrass Labour's national leadership, because it will strengthen the Government's case for privatization.

Camden's tender document, "by far the biggest and most complicated of any council's", according to Blundy, was issued on January 1, 1989. It split the borough into two contracts and it required tenders to be returned in five rather than eight weeks. An attempt by SITA to tender was rejected when Carneau alleged he was told, "You have no experience". SITA has been in the cleaning business since 1919. Blundy claims that his attempts to obtain any information from Camden "were made extremely difficult".

Camden councillor Bill Budd, who describes himself as an "old-time socialist", admitted to his colleagues that "we did everything in our power to ensure that services were retained in-house". In February 1989, Cory Onyx lost the £23.9 million contract by £2.3 million to Camden's Works Department. But just days after the con-



Dirty business: Michael Blundy, who is seeking refuse contracts, says it is "deeply depressing that we have to put up with this degradation"

'There is no difference between a British and French refuse workforce. The difference is the management who have expertise. Local authorities cannot be experts in every field'

tract became effective on August 1, the accusations began flying. While the newly privatized, 303-strong labour force went on strike and McGillivray discovered that it was 40 workers above its legal quota, Budd, who is responsible for direct services, said that a further 40 workers were "permanently sick", some for psychiatric reasons and others with back pains. As the pavements outside the Old Town Hall became clogged with rubbish, officials inside the building bluntly denied complaints. It was at this stage that the new Act's requirements under privatization began to take

effect, sending a lesson to other maverick councils around the country which are equally inclined to establish nuclear-free, rather than litter-free, zones within their narrow confines. Under the Act, the contractor's performance must be monitored by the council and payments withheld if it fails to fulfil its obligations. Accordingly, every month since August, at least £5,000 has been withheld from Camden's contractors. Although it is a token amount, Budd admits its continuing effect: "Privatization has brought a vast improvement. We're getting rid of the old

anarchy and time wasters who refused to work after lunch. We'll collect 40,000 tons more rubbish this year than last." Budd is reluctant to admit that previously the extra rubbish was left on the pavements. And some of it still is. For three weeks over Christmas, few dustbins were emptied. The campaign against miscreant Labour councils such as Camden is no longer confined to the council chamber — or even the district auditor, who is castigated by the Conservatives in Camden as "toothless". Disgruntled businessmen such as Blundy are watching for the first opportunity to expose incompetence and demand the right to prove their own performance. Blundy and Carneau concede that comparisons with France are unfair. The average per capita expenditure in France on cleansing is £30 per year. In Britain it is £3. "The French are not tidier," Carneau says, "we just spend more on cleaning up." Nevertheless the French companies claim they will be able to improve standards in some boroughs with

the money allocated here. He claims that private companies offer something special to local authorities: "There is no difference between a British and French refuse workforce. The difference is the management who have expertise. Local authorities cannot be experts in every field from housing to social services." Gradually, the political and financial pressure is mounting against councils which have bequeathed Britain a reputation as Europe's dirtiest nation. The pressure will increase next July when, under the Environmental Protection Bill, any citizen will be able to appeal to a magistrate for a Litter Abatement Notice, which will order the local council to clean specified streets. Britain will not overnight once again become a green and pleasant land, but rubbish has for the first time become a political issue and local elections are due in May. The Government, Sir Geoffrey Howe says, has declared a "war against grime and crime which go hand in hand".

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mens streets



State of siege in Haiti

For the past eight years of the Ceausescu tyranny in Romania, a young man and his wife came across the border from their home in Hungary on a series of mercy missions that leave fiction bankrupt. Only now that the dictatorship has been toppled can Mihaly Ungvari and his wife, Gyorgyike, talk of what happened — and what could have happened — in 30 trips with food and medical supplies through the heavily policed border posts.

At first glance, you would be hard-put to find a more implausible pair of smugglers — she with a polio-bent body bobbing on metal crutches, he with legs that end in stumps six inches below the hip, and one good eye; both of them propelling themselves through life with a mixture of support, ingenuity, and contempt for the odds against them.

Yet it is precisely these "disabilities", in both cases suffered since childhood, which in 1982, during a holiday visit to Romania, quickened their compassion for the plight of the villagers in that oppressed nation. Ungvari, an unofficial tour guide, lost both legs at the age of 12 when he and a group of boys were playing with an unexploded Soviet grenade in an arms cache in the Hungarian countryside. As a teenager at an institution for disabled boys in the capital, Budapest, he met and subsequently married the serene and equally indomitable Gyorgyike.

Last week, at the west London home of his sister Irene, who is married to an English schoolteacher, Francis Logan, Ungvari told *The Times* how, during the last years of the



Mercy mission: Irene Logan, right, helps Mihaly and Gyorgyike Ungvari load their van with supplies for a trip to Romania

Running hope into Romania

An unlikely pair of smugglers regularly risked arrest to take vital supplies to the victims of Ceausescu's oppression

Ceausescu, his one-man trick of aid, secreted in parts of limbs and crutches which even the Securitate could not reach, progressed into something resembling a torrent. Throughout his account, interpreted by a sister often pushed by emotion to the brink of inarticulacy, he seemed to see nothing remarkable in his undertakings.

He said: "It was really quite simple. I was so struck by the terrible conditions of our neighbours over the border that it reminded me of my own suffering as a boy. I had to do something about it. You would go into a mini-supermarket in one of the towns, and there would be nothing there but empty shelves. No food at all; just dishes for sale."

On his second visit, he took in aspirin, milk powder and baby food, as well as medication for blood pressure and heart conditions. He gradually built up an underground network of distribution centres, based in eight towns and involving 50 families.

On one visit to the town of

couple's ageing Trabant car, Ungvari would play crippled. "He would explain to the soldiers that it would take him five or 10 minutes to get himself ready to be searched. This would put them off."

Ungvari recalled one occasion late last year when their newly acquired Volkswagen van was flagrantly loaded with supplies because the couple had been unable to drop off part of the load with collaborators on the Hungarian side of the border.

"There was no question of whether we were going to be found out. They had only to look at the van to see how much stuff we were trying to take through illegally. I decided the only thing to do was to come clean with the guards."

"I asked them whether they honestly thought that these provisions would do any harm to the stability of the country, and whether they really preferred it for their own compatriots to go without so many basic things. I wanted to know what good they thought it would do if they turned me in, and we stood there on the border, talking about it. All I knew was that I had been found out."

They let the van through. The need for such persuasion and subterfuge may be over, but there are more obstacles ahead for the Ungvaris. Unless they can repay the £2,000 they borrowed for the new van when the Trabant finally expired, there is a possibility that they will no longer be able to continue their aid. It is a danger Mihaly and Gyorgyike fear more than any security man.

Alan Franks

The Times Crossword, the world's most illustrious puzzle, is 60 years old next week. To mark the event, we shall be publishing The Times Diamond Jubilee Crossword, with a holiday to India and £1,000 cash for the winner, plus other prizes. Clues start appearing next Monday, so order your copy of *The Times* now



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TIMES DIARY

SHERIDAN MORLEY

Stephen Sondheim, Oxford's first visiting professor of drama, dealt sharply at the weekend with press complaints that not enough Oxford undergraduates were being included in his master classes. "First of all, one third of my class are Oxford graduates; secondly, we did indeed invite current undergraduates to submit tapes of their work, but as none reached a very high standard of promise, it seemed only reasonable to offer places to students from elsewhere in the country."

For Sondheim himself, the honour of becoming Oxford's first drama professor far outweighs the charge of failing to involve himself more publicly in the university's life — the criticism that Oxford always makes of its visiting professors. At my undergraduate time there in the early 1960s, W.H. Auden, visiting professor of poetry, became so sensitive to it that he used to sit fortitously in a coffee bar every morning from 10 until 11, making himself available to all passers-by, many of whom turned out to be village ladies of a certain age keen to have someone to chat to during their shopping break.

Sondheim is a little too busy to try that. Apart from his long stints taking master classes, he also has two London musicals in production (*Sunday in the Park with George* for the National and *Into the Woods* for the West End this summer) as well as the Piccadilly revival of *A Little Night Music*, while on Broadway there are hit revivals of *Sweeney Todd* and *Gypsy*.

His originally unsuccessful *Merrily We Roll Along* is about to resurface in Washington with a drastically revised book, and much of his other work is being celebrated in the anthology *Jerome Robbins Broadway*. For a man approaching 60 who for most of his career has been told that he was too uncommercial and too academic for wide popular acclaim, a total of seven musicals in production in London and New York cannot be bad.

And if that were not enough, Sondheim is also now working on a new musical called *Assassins* about 11 men and women who have tried, and in some cases succeeded, to kill presidents of the United States. "I even plan to reveal," he says, "who really killed President Kennedy."

BARRY FANTONI



"How can you reason with people who break into Iran?"

As Arthur Miller returns to London this week for a press conference to launch the revival of *The Price* at the Young Vic — which, under David Thacker's direction, has done more than any other theatre to spearhead and sustain the rebirth of his reputation over here — there is an intriguing opportunity to contrast two versions of an earlier Miller masterpiece.

While the Haymarket Theatre in Leicester revived his McCarthy witch-hunting drama, *The Crucible*, from February 9, the Royal Academy of Music in London will offer from February 20 as part of its American Music Festival a rare chance to see the opera that Robert Ward and Bernard Stambler made of the play in the 1950s. I saw this recently in New York, in a remarkable Juilliard student production, by Eve Shapiro, and recommend it to Miller and opera fans alike.

Having recently chronicled for this diary various tempestuous battles between Broadway drama critics, it is only fair to report that colleagues of mine in the London Critics Circle are at last showing encouraging signs of emerging from behind their grey columns and bellowing as theatrically and flamboyantly as anything they ever have to write about. The current imbroglio concerns Michael Coveney, who recently moved from *The Financial Times* to *The Observer*, and his erstwhile deputy, Martin Hoyle.

Hoyle, so Coveney claims, planted a paragraph in *Time Out* alleging that Coveney threw a tantrum over a damp patch on the bedroom carpet of his Edinburgh hotel a couple of festivals ago. Coveney has now replied, indignantly accusing Hoyle of "cowardly public expressions of contempt and disloyalty" and of being "the only *Financial Times* contributor renowned for tantrums and hysteria". If only the plays that one reviews with them most often were even fractionally as intriguing... Over to you, Tom Stoppard.

The accused sat in a line and toyed with dinner: soup, haggis, syllabub and a wee tattie o' black brie — which turned out to be coffee. We are in the Burns season. This was the first and the largest of the half million Burns suppers that take place around the world at this time of year.

In the Hospitality Inn in the European City of Culture on Saturday evening, George and Tom and John and Ken, two lads, Frances, Isabel and I were seated with Joe, the chairman. Below us in the body of the hall sat 1,200 Scots dressed in their best at tables strewn with Cardhu 12-year-old malt whisky, Simmers shortbread and wine which was no better than it needed to be.

Frances anxiously repositioned her Silk Cut. George, who was to go first, was slumped in his chair beside John, who was writing notes furiously; Isabel, sitting by

catatonic Tom, just looked terribly ill at ease. There is no other branch of the entertainment business in which the performers warm up in full view of their audience. In a theatre you get a dressing-room and a hard man guards the stage door. Footballers are given pre-match accommodation in a tunnel. Nothing like that in our profession.

Joe had said the Selkirk grace, attacked the haggis with a sword and a poem, thanked the Lord for our meal, toasted the Queen, announced an interval.

Now Frances was smoking like someone whose life depended on it. John, scribbling at an en-

hanced pace, was on his ninth prompt card. Kenneth was paler than he had been. George smaller, and Isabel — poor Isabel — walked past and then back again and said: "I haven't done this for a long time, not in public."

Ian decided, exceptionally, on another wee dram. I followed his fine example. Tom was sitting so still you had to line him up with an inanimate object, like the waiter, to catch a sign of life.

And then it was time: George approached the microphone, unleashed a brace of the Bard's poems and captivated the great multitude with his oratory; when he returned he sat tall — beaming like the man who had taken Eno's

Robert O'Neill finds the key to the future already at hand

Forum for a new Europe

domination there. The CSCE survived the ensuing controversy, but the great powers on each side opposed the suggestions of smaller states that it should take on a permanent existence. So the CSCE came to have an episodic life, holding its first review conference in Belgrade in 1977 and its second in Madrid in 1983.

The second meeting initiated the conference on security-building measures and disarmament in Europe (CDE), held in Stockholm in 1984-86. This successful negotiation carried *glasnost* into the East-West military relationship on a limited but effective basis, through measures such as notification of major exercises, invitation of observers from the other side and provision for verification inspections. These measures reduced the possibility of war through miscalculation and eased fears of surprise attack. The CSCE's third review conference, in Vienna in 1986-88, established the negotiations

on conventional armed forces in Europe (CFE), thereby administering the *coup de grace* to the long-running fiasco of the mutual and balanced force reductions (MBFR) talks.

In the light of the decay of the Warsaw Pact, we should be thankful for the CSCE. It had a difficult beginning. Its early products were controversial. But it has shown that despite having 35 members it can reach useful agreements on important aspects of security. While the decline of the Warsaw Pact signifies that less and less can be gained through bloc-to-bloc negotiations, the regenerated independence of the states of Eastern Europe stands to strengthen the CSCE yet further.

Change in Europe can occur in two principal ways: through spontaneous eruption of popular and national pressures, which can lead easily to chaos, or through managed evolution from one highly secure situation (credible deterrence exercised by

strong alliances) to another.

What is the new objective to be? Clearly it must be a consensual arrangement in which European security is built through the mechanisms of normal civil society: the free expression and passage of ideas, the promotion of economic co-operation and social justice, and the rule of law. The anarchic dimension of armed force has to be reduced as far as possible, but just as a degree of anarchy is bound to remain in any system linking sovereign states, so there will remain purposes for modest military forces. They will still have to deter military adventures by other states and meet the lower-level contingencies which can arise through the actions of sub-national groups in Europe and crises beyond its borders.

Whether the CSCE can meet the challenge of providing the foundation for such a system must remain a major question. Large assemblies of sovereign

states tend after a few years to fall into disorder and decay, which they attempt to cloak in meaningless verbiage. Yet the forces of internal politics within member states of the CSCE which have caused difficulties in the past look much more positively orientated today.

The huge cost, in terms of human rights and personal freedom, of relapsing into dictatorship is all too obvious in the east. The disunity of war as an instrument of national policy in a nuclear world is understood far better and more widely than ever before. The former putative enemy now desperately needs our help.

The penalties of failure to carry the transformation of Europe from a pair of hostile camps into a free association of fully co-operating people will be very great. Nato has a role, but more as a fallback than the vanguard of progress. Without the CSCE or something like it, Europe could not embark on the

next stage of its development. The CSCE must now develop its procedures and constitutional framework so that it can reach and sustain agreements on increasingly wide security measures. All the old dilemmas of international organizations must be faced. Will the veto of one member be allowed to impede the progress of the others? Will there be real collective authority to deal with disputes between members? Will the organization be capable of handling a powerful rogue in its ranks?

The very fact that it is timely to raise these questions emphasizes that to date the CSCE has had considerable success and strengthens confidence that it will be able to play a wider role in the future. The CSCE is, of course, now looking at a Europe much more complex than that which it was born to address. Suddenly it has to take centre stage with only transient supporting players, and the memories of its successes on the smaller stage of Stockholm to calm its nerves. It will need greater support from all member governments if it is to have the strength to carry the part.

The author is Chichele Professor of the History of War and a fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

Jack Straw

When society is dumped

In my time I have arrested a burglar and caught a mugger. But until last month I had never tackled a litter lout. Litter is a social problem of the kind that challenges mathematicians: one piece of litter flitting on an otherwise pristine pavement may make no difference; nor, may those who drop it reason, does their piece of litter make any material difference to the rubbish-strewn streets that cause us such international shame.

Most people quickly comprehend that burglary is a bad idea — not only for the victim but, in the long run, for the villain too — but injunctions against dropping litter involve a degree of abstraction, in appeals beyond immediate self-interest to wider social responsibility. As I discovered on that December day, such appeals can be difficult.

Whenever in the past I have seen people drop litter an intensive debate — with myself — has ensued. One voice has told me: "Do your duty, Straw. Tell them now to pick it up. OK, the government should do more to keep our cities clean, not to hamstring local authorities, but we won't solve the problem of litter and graffiti until those who value their surroundings make that clear, immediately, to those who do not."

But then another voice breaks in: "Pretend you haven't seen it. Remember you're British. Avert your glance. It's only one piece of litter, after all. You've got better things to do than have a scrap with a total stranger over where he left his empty cigarette packet. What if he turns nasty?"

Previously it was the second voice that always won — until that December afternoon on Westminster underground station. A young man, listening to a Walkman, stood a few paces from a bright red litter bin. He could certainly see it, yet he dropped a large piece of paper on the platform. The usual debate ensued, but this time the first voice won. I composed myself. "Don't be confrontational" (an occasional failing), I told myself. "Be very polite."

"Excuse me, I think you have dropped something. I wonder if you would like to pick it up and put it in the bin."

"Do what?" he replied. It was clear that never in his twenty years had such a proposition been made to him. So I repeated my suggestion. "What if...ing business is it of yours?"

"It's everybody's business if public places look filthy."

"P... off, it's not hurting you. You're f...ing mad. Who do you think you bloody are anyway?"

At this point I made a mistake. "I'm a Member of Parliament," I told him.

"Oh yes? I told you you were f...ing mad."

Then the young man's friend, whom I had not noticed, appeared from the shadows, also listening to a Walkman. Fat and pimply, he pushed his nose against mine, and without stopping for breath said:

"You're a piece of..."

A public address announcement drowned his words. "Pardon?" I said. "I said you're a piece of..."

The conversation continued on the same lines. The two youths, on the one hand, told me in turn of my insanity and my closeness to excrement, while I (to my surprise, keeping cool) found myself mouthing phrases about social responsibility and wishing that the second, sensible voice of discretion had prevailed before I had got into all this.

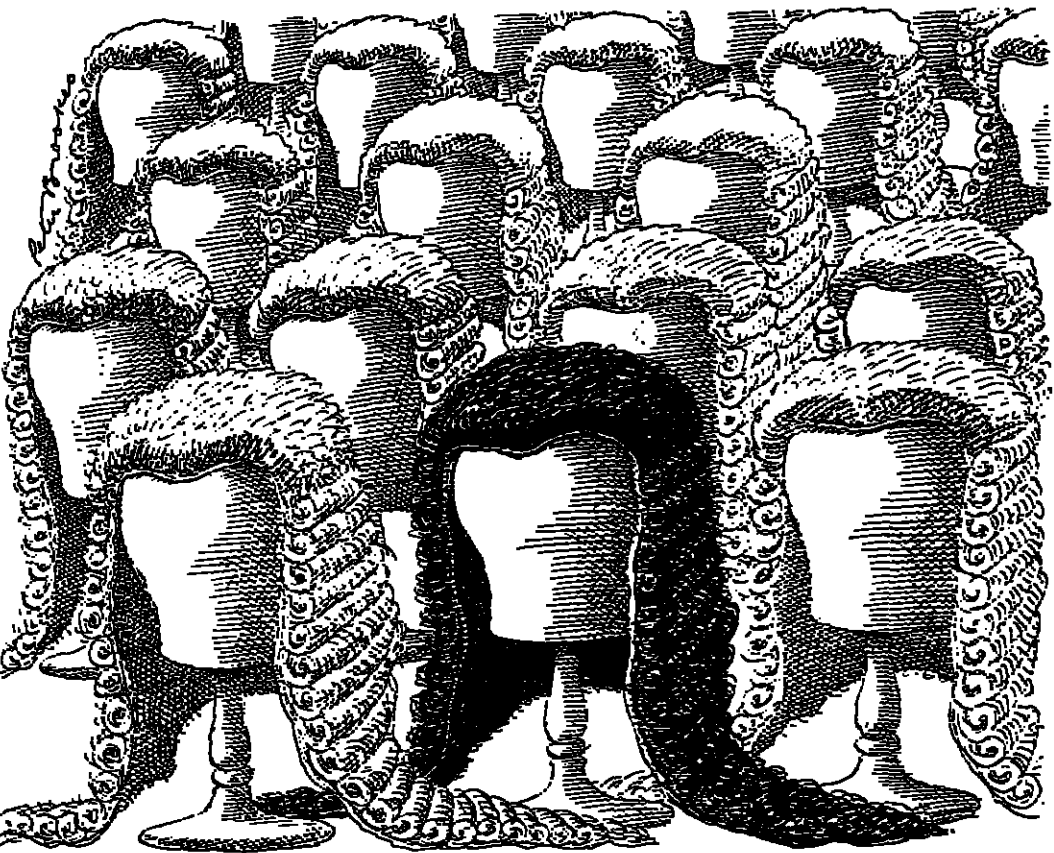
All the while, the piece of paper sat on the platform staring insolently back at us. But vindication was at hand. Our train came in. The two youths moved off to get into a different carriage from me. As they did, the one who had dropped the paper picked it up and put it in his pocket. Rather shaken, I reasoned that perhaps I was not quite so mad after all. But as I recovered my composure I recalled a phrase of the Prime Minister's, in an interview in *Woman's Own* in October 1987: "...there is no such thing as society. There are individual men and women, and there are families" — but no society.

These youths were a product of the Thatcher years. They had no conception of society, no sense of responsibility to others. It is a fair bet that they did not have much sense of family either. As *Spillit Brats*, the recent chilling report from the Gold Greenlees Trott advertising agency, sets out: "One young adult of the Nineties in three will have come from divorced parents, and many more will have come from parents whose marriage was rocky, or who were maintaining a semblance of a marriage until their children left home... In addition, one teenager in three in the Nineties will be illegitimate."

If by "permissive" we mean self-indulgent, and selfish, detached from a sense of obligation to others, and to social mores, then from this report the permissive decade emerges not as the Sixties, but as the Eighties. Most telling of all, the report concludes that "the youth of the Nineties are seeing splits and social divisions opening up before them. They aren't the united children of Britain; they are the children of the two nations, rich and poor." This will be a divide; so, too, will be that between the young and a dominant "middle-aged, middle-class culture". To these two youths, I no doubt represented that culture.

The two hopeful signs from an otherwise deeply depressing report are that young people want, not traditional "content-free" advertising but "believable facts and strong arguments", and that only 21 per cent of the sample said they would vote for Mrs Thatcher. So the Nineties could have a happy ending after all, just like my altercation on platform one.

The author is Labour MP for Blackburn.



After the controversy north of the border, Bernard Levin recalls a small, personal victory in the cause of homosexual tolerance

believe a claim that there aren't. There are homosexual QCs, homosexual bishops, homosexual peers of the realm, homosexual surgeons, homosexual headmasters, homosexual company chairmen and homosexual MPs (though I know of only one who has as yet had the courage to "come out"); I don't think there is a homosexual in the Cabinet at present, but there often has been. Now I come to think of it, there was in recent times a homosexual archbishop — not at Canterbury or York, though, but in *paribus infidelium*. There must be homosexual cardinals and ayatollahs. We have had at least two homosexual monarchs.

Why all this counting? Because I am sure that at this moment the heterosexual Scottish judges (if there are any) are pursuing their lips rather than licking them, though they will never have a better opportunity to open their minds and start the process of understanding which will ultimately lead to the realization that homosexuals are no more and no less human than heterosexuals, no more or less sinful, no more or less brave or honourable, clever or energetic, lazy or stupid, Jewish or Gentile, handsome or ill-favoured, no more or less worthy of respect, trust, affection and love (or employment, for that matter).

When will the British grow up? That is not my question; it is the rest of the world's. Did you see the cartoons in Friday's newspapers? And if you did, did you

not despair of our countrymen who, faced with allegations that might well lead to appalling criminal charges or discreet resignations or careers destroyed, can do nothing but giggle and smirk? It is no tragedy that some Scottish judges are homosexuals, any more than that some are left-handed; what makes the situation tragic is the fact that if a judge is publicly discovered to be homosexual by nature, even though there is no evidence that he has had *lawful* homosexual relations, let alone forbidden ones, he would have to resign, drowned in vast quantities of bile about blackmail.

I suppose a Scottish judge remembers the Saunders case. What does he think he got with a woman? It was touch and go. I would not have been surprised if he had smashed the decanter in my face. Instead, he sank back in his chair, gasping for breath. There was another silence, longer. He broke it, in a small, almost colourless voice, he said: "I never thought of it like that." I went home a happy man; it is true that I have never been invited to that house again, but I can say that I cured a man of homophobia by words alone. If the heterosexual judges of Scotland, even now tearing the names of their erring colleagues out of their hearts, to say nothing of their address-books, will put themselves in my hands, I shall endeavour to do the same for them.

Once, and only once, I changed a man's attitude to homosexuality with a single speech, at a dinner-party. He was an extreme homophobe, mar-

ried, using language that even I thought had gone out of fashion, and railing against perverses so ferociously that I concluded that he must be the Mayor of Sodom. I cleared my throat, took a sip of wine, and started. I asked him to conjure up his feelings if a man suggested that they should go to bed together. Red-faced, he accepted my imaginary experiment and embarked on it with coarse contempt. Little did he know that I had hardly started.

I described, in unabashed clinical detail, precisely what his imaginary partner would do to him and demand of him. I deliberately became lascivious in my pursuit of his enlightenment: the whole table was frozen with embarrassment and every eye was cast down, while most of the guests, to my host and hostess, were crumbling bread feverishly. Aristides Levin pushed on mercilessly, burying the victim in horror. He turned purple; I thought he would foam at the mouth.

I stopped, and there was a silence. "Well," I said, "that is exactly what a homosexual man would feel if it was suggested that he go to bed with a woman."

It was touch and go. I would not have been surprised if he had smashed the decanter in my face. Instead, he sank back in his chair, gasping for breath. There was another silence, longer. He broke it, in a small, almost colourless voice, he said: "I never thought of it like that." I went home a happy man; it is true that I have never been invited to that house again, but I can say that I cured a man of homophobia by words alone. If the heterosexual judges of Scotland, even now tearing the names of their erring colleagues out of their hearts, to say nothing of their address-books, will put themselves in my hands, I shall endeavour to do the same for them.

In a cold sweat over the haggis



CLEMENT FREUD

when all around him pale and wan from the need thereof. And Isabel sang "Coming through the Rye" sweetly, melodiously, to rapturous applause. Me next. I talked of haggis, which appears in

my pocket encyclopaedia after Haggi — a minor Old Testament prophet of the Ron Brown "This is a great moral victory" school of prophecy. I rejoined my Cardhu and made serious innuendoes. Kenneth sang commandingly, brilliantly — Burns nights would not be the same without Mr McKellar — and Frances was on.

She told a story of standing behind the counter of her shop in Oban on the day Lady Diana's engagement was announced and her picture stared from every newspaper: "Isn't she a champion lass?" asked a Lancashire tourist. "I wouldn't like to give an opinion," Frances answered. "Quite right," said the Lancas-

trian's husband. "Shop assistants should keep their thoughts to themselves." (This was a good story, though as the programme notes said only that Mrs Frances Shand-Kidd is the mother of five children and dislikes being asked personal questions, 60 per cent of the audience did not realize she is the future Queen's mother.)

Frances returned to the table a changed woman. Cigarettes made way for champagne, and now Tom lumbered past like a Munster, changing as he mounted the podium to a quietly confident master-interpreter of the Bard's works. It was *Tam O' Shanter*, which is long; it was joyous. George and Isabel, Kenneth,

Frances and I beamed. John — not due to propose Scotland the Land O' Burns until midway through the second half, disappeared from sight behind his stack of notes.

John's time came. The Angles, he began, came to Britain: the acute Angles turned north and became Scots, the obtuse Angles headed south... the rest was drowned in applause.

At the half million Burns suppers held this month (hurry if you want to book for one at London's Grosvenor House on Friday), roughly two and a half million people will party in front of their haggis for anything up to three hours. Why cannot they come out from some special enclosure, a warm-up ring?

I mean, when you go to a circus, the elephants don't sit in the audience before it is their turn to do their thing.



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FRESH FIELDS

Just over 10 years since Britain sent troops on to the streets of Northern Ireland, the Soviet Union has dispatched its own regular army to restore law and order to Azerbaijan. Given that the unrest in that southern republic overshadows that in Ulster both in terms of its intensity and scale, one can hardly criticize President Gorbachev's decision. Security reinforcements were inevitable.

Reports since then, however, have evoked memories of Tiananmen Square rather than Belfast. Wars in general and civil wars in particular generate many stories of atrocities. Until the dust has (literally) settled in Baku, the overall casualty toll will be unclear. It appeared last night, however, that the Red Army had responded to violence in what is probably the only way it knows.

New wounds must have been opened at the weekend among the warring factions in Baku. The brutality of the worsening civil war between the Azeris and Armenians in Azerbaijan had made some kind of military intervention unavoidable. Mr Gorbachev must also recognize, however, that military solutions are usually short-lived and expensive. If power is to come from the barrel of the gun, the maintenance of peace will take a long time and involve many soldiers. Moreover if trouble spreads to other regions the Soviet army will soon be dangerously over-stretched.

Events elsewhere have in this respect helped Moscow. Last week Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland demanded that Soviet divisions on their soil be removed by the end of this year or, at worst, 1991.

The East Germans have proposed more modestly that all foreign troops should leave their own country and West Germany by 1999 — a timetable more in line with Soviet thinking. But the rising chorus in other parts of the Warsaw Pact will no doubt be echoed there too before long.

With no Soviet troops in Bulgaria or Romania, Mr Gorbachev is having to face the possibility of an imminent total withdrawal from Eastern Europe. While he has pressed for balanced reductions on each side, this rate of progress is not what the Kremlin has in mind.

At the Conventional Forces in Europe talks in Vienna the United States has proposed a ceiling of 275,000 troops for each superpower

in Europe. The Russians have countered with a figure of between 300,000 and 350,000. They have been aiming at a preliminary agreement by the end of this year, followed by second and third phase treaties in due course.

The Soviet Union has already pulled out some of its troops. It announced a phased withdrawal of 50,000 just over a year ago. About 10,000 have already left Hungary and Czechoslovakia and more are due to be recalled later this year. Other unilateral reductions are taking place in Poland.

His horrendous economic problems and the need to sustain the perestroika programme have pushed Mr Gorbachev to seek cuts in military spending. But he has nearly 600,000 troops in Eastern Europe. Their sudden return would present problems over accommodation if they remained in the forces and over jobs if they were demobilized.

There could also be political worries. The return of large numbers of discontented officers, unhappy at the apparent decline of the Red Army, might deepen Mr Gorbachev's sense of insecurity.

To this extent his worries over Eastern Europe dovetail with those in Azerbaijan. In the first place the release of manpower might partly ease his resource problem in the south. In the second, the (admittedly unappealing) policing duties provide his returning troops with a new (and happily distant) role.

On the other hand their internal military commitment must increase Russian angst over the prospect of a strategic East-West imbalance. The likely consequence would be increased pressure on Nato for a Western balancing act.

There is already a feeling that Nato should look beyond the first CFE agreement to the deeper cuts which will inevitably follow. If the Soviets are forced into premature retreat from Europe and an equally embarrassing occupation of Azerbaijan, the acceleration of CFE will be imperative.

This also implies, however, that countries like Britain need to give urgent consideration to the future size and shape of their own forces. As one ally can hardly do this on its own, a Nato review must now be a priority for Brussels. Mr Gorbachev's problems are to that extent our problems.

ELECTRONIC WEATHERVANE

Over the past two months, London share prices have varied by as much as 12 per cent for no particular financial or economic reason. Shares rose sharply in December, finally receding their 1987 peak by the new year. The credit squeeze was working and the depreciation of the pound had eased fears of a recession. Since then, though, prices have fallen most of the way back. The pattern has been similar, though less dramatic, in New York and Tokyo.

Dealers often reach for a political factor to explain such fluctuations. For once, however, the faceless financial markets have responded emotionally. The euphoria of December started in Eastern Europe, where the lessening of tension between two military blocs appeared to offer free world economies the double bonus of stability and new markets. The subsequent relapse might be explained by fears of instability raised by ethnic conflicts in the Balkans and the Caucasus, and the realization that most of these new markets are virtually bankrupt.

In Japan, worries over next month's election have hit the yen, bond prices and shares successively. In the United States, there is a tense debate over whether inflation and the perennial trade deficit are rising again or whether industry is about to sink into recession. Long-term interest rates have risen, while short-term money rates have fallen almost continuously for a year.

Last Friday, London provided a somewhat absurd vignette of what happens to markets when dealers are confused and look to conflicting economic signals for an answer. All

eyes strained for the first electronic sighting of the retail price index, which is bidding to replace the trade figures in a long line of monthly statistics that instantly move financial markets. Fears that inflation might hit eight per cent were, in the event, confounded.

Relief was, however, short-lived when the Bank of England revealed an unexpectedly big monthly surge in bank lending and the money supply. Sterling wobbled and shares fell back. Come the afternoon, New York shares opened higher, eliminating London's losses in their wake. Over a day of virtually no net change, and in which no economic questions had been resolved, share prices had varied by 1 1/4 per cent.

The securities markets have become global affairs with local variations. In shares, London follows New York while New York increasingly listens to Tokyo — a market on which the sun never sets, but which curiously defies the logic of time zones. The relationships change for interest and exchange rates, where the whole of Europe follows Germany and the rest of the world follows the United States.

Such mis-matches, intensified by electronic dealing, feed the fluctuations on which markets thrive. On the London stock exchange, the lull in trading, save for water shares, has driven market-makers to move prices this way and that in an attempt to generate business. So share price variations that took months can be compressed into weeks or hours and any sharp move, like that seen in December, is cynically dismissed as a deviation from the trend or from traditional financial relationships. Fortunately, the trend still seems to be up.

BURMA'S DENIAL OF DEMOCRACY

At a time when tyrannies in Eastern Europe are being dismantled, the ruling military junta in Burma seems to be laying plans to entrench its control. Although elections have been promised for May and political parties legalized, the entire exercise could be no more than a charade behind which the present army generals continue to call the shots.

The arbitrary and as yet unexplained decision to ban Aung San Suu Kyi, the country's principal political leader and daughter of the independence hero, General Aung San, from contesting the election is only the most recent decision of the military regime which casts doubt over its actual intentions.

Last July she was placed under house arrest. Late last year her two sons, at school in Britain, were stripped of their Burmese passports and prevented from visiting their mother. Her husband, Dr Michael Aris, an Oxford don, has only limited access and is subject to severe restrictions during the short visits he is allowed.

There is little doubt that General Saw Maung's government is scared of Suu Kyi. The massive Rangoon rallies during the fleeting summer of hope in 1988, when General Ne Win, dictator since 1962, was forced to resign and a succession of presidents was toppled, proved the Burmese people's loyalty to the Aung San inheritance. Although the army has since reasserted its control and imposed martial law, Suu Kyi's extensive campaigns in the countryside have showed that support for her and for the restoration of democracy continues. Her National League for Democracy is likely to win any free and fair poll.

However, the General plans to use the May elections as a smoke-screen for transferring power to the National Unity Party, which is widely seen as the successor to the old Burma Socialist Programme Party. Even a rigged election might, he believes, convince Burma's western aid donors that democracy has been

restored while, at the same time, ensuring victory for the NUP.

As a result Suu Kyi's popularity has become the hurdle the regime has to overcome. Hence her arrest and now the electoral ban. This is also why U Nu, Burma's last civilian prime minister, and Tin Oo, a former defence minister, who has spoken against the regime, have been arrested. Indeed, reports suggest that thousands more have been detained, often without charges or hope of fair trials.

Burma cannot afford this denial of democracy. It is a once rich nation now reduced to the ninth poorest in the world, kept in isolation, with its infrastructure crumbling and ethnic frustrations growing. Democracy is its only hope of recovery. An honestly elected popular government could revive the nation's flagging spirit, restore the economy and unify the people. The alternative is continued deprivation, division and despair.

It is time for democratic governments to raise their voices in concern. Even if the generals cannot be stopped, they must be made aware that their plans are unacceptable and their intentions transparent.

Two countries, above all, have a special role because of their historical or geographical connections. Britain is the first, and its government should make clear its disapproval. India is the other. As the world's largest democracy and a neighbour, both its example and its support carry great weight. Mr V. P. Singh, India's new prime minister, is committed to the revival of democratic institutions at home. It would be illogical, as well as unbecoming, if he did not take a strong stand over developments across a porous border.

If there is a lesson from Eastern Europe, it is that freedom cannot forever be denied and that tyranny will eventually cease. When that happens those countries who have befriended the forces of democracy in Burma will reap the benefits of their investment.

Ridding schools of racial bias

From Professor Antony Flew and others

Sir, The current dispute over the suspension of two Muslim pupils at Altrincham Girls Grammar School who refused to remove their Islamic headscarves (reports, January 18, 19) brings into focus the non-statutory code of practice, aiming to eliminate racial discrimination in education. The code was published recently by the Commission for Racial Equality (report, December 14, 1989) and commended in a foreword by the secretary of state for education.

According to the code, a high proportion of under-achieving or misbehaving pupils of a particular racial group would be taken as *prima facie* evidence of racial discrimination by the teacher or educational institution, unless these outcomes could be justified on educational grounds.

Not only are "justifiable educational grounds" unspecified, leaving teachers vulnerable to pressures to upgrade poor marks which might be seen as leading to a change of racial discrimination. There is a presumption of guilt. The burden of proof of innocence falls on the teacher or educational institution.

The code is also based on a false premise, disproved in studies across the world — that it is only racial discrimination which causes the proportion of achievers in any racial group to differ from the proportion of achievers in the whole population.

Equally nonsensical — as it confuses culture with race — and just as dangerous is the code's assertion that

Indirect discrimination in assessment will occur if the criteria or process are culturally biased and result in lower assessments being given to a considerably higher proportion of pupils or students from particular racial groups and those criteria cannot be justified on educational grounds. Culturally biased assessment criteria are those that assume a uniformity in children's cultural, linguistic, religious and lifestyle experiences.

Are the National Curriculum and assessment tests to become culture-free, and so impoverish the education of all children; or are all children to have equal opportunities to a real mainstream education, in the English language, in British culture and history? While the Government makes up its mind, we call on Mr MacGregor to withdraw his endorsement and repudiate this damaging document.

Yours truly,
ANTHONY FLEW,
RALPH HARRIS,
GLORY OSAJI-UMEAKU,
KATIE IVENS (Chairman,
London Good Schools Campaign),
49 Ordinance Hill, NW8.

Links with Europe

From Mr David Green

Sir, Against events in Eastern Europe, Lord Bethell's discussion of Conservative and Conservative MEP attitudes to the European Community (article, January 15) reads like a scheme for latter-day Nero to fiddle while the Treaty of Rome burns.

Has it not occurred to them yet that other nations in Europe — notably West Germany — now have on their doorstep a market which offers an insatiable demand for their product, vast natural resources, and a skilled labour force accustomed to wages which are a fraction of those which we expect?

Europe's economic centre of gravity is rocketing eastwards. Why should anyone not already so committed now contemplate steering investment and resources into Western Europe, particularly into an intransigent United Kingdom on its periphery, when the prospect of far greater rewards is opening up in the East?

Our lukewarm hovering over the mechanisms of control of the European bureaucracy and the degree of supra-nationality to be grudgingly conceded has had the effect only of delaying commitment between existing members. Unless we evidence a swift and radical change in attitude we are likely to discover that by the time we want and need that commitment, the rest of Europe will have lost interest in it.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GREEN,
Rhyl yr Harding,
Castle Morris,
Nr Haverfordwest, Dyfed.

S African cricket tour

From the Editor of Cricket Life International

Sir, The crucial point that Mr Peter May and others seem to have missed in their letter of January 6 is that South Africa continues to be banned from international sport because of its Government's apartheid policies and not because of the attitude of its cricketing authorities.

The performance of the South African Cricket Union and its own feelings about apartheid are therefore as irrelevant as the fact that some of the South African players are actually very nice people. For that matter, the Russian Olympic committee had nothing to do with the invasion of Afghanistan.

Unless we take the rather patronising view that we know what is best for blacks in South Africa, how do we explain the fact that not a single coloured person from that country has come out in support of the rebel tour? And if indeed the tour is for such a noble cause, why is it that those who will

Children's upkeep by absent fathers

From Ms J. Rees

Sir, Mrs Thatcher's stand (reports, January 17, 18) on making absent fathers pay for their children will not help the State and the taxpayer where the Department of Social Security's greatest burden exists: the single parent on income support. Few receive maintenance, even fewer attempt to claim it, for the simple reason that despite free legal aid and DNA blood testing, it is just not worth the effort.

For those who do not receive it, the State makes up the shortfall: for those who do receive it, the State deducts it pound for pound from their benefit. Ultimately their income support payment remains the same, whatever they do. Few therefore risk the hassle and possible embarrassment of a court hearing.

But if for every £10 the father paid the DSS only reclaimed £6.50 (leaving the mother with an extra £3.50) and so on, on a sliding scale up to a maximum point from which a State-supported single mother could benefit, the system would improve at once. Mothers would have an incentive to co-operate with the DSS; disclosure under oath in court of a man's true income and expenditure would allow realistic levels of maintenance to be set, thus affording realistic levels of State recovery of payments.

Men would be more careful, perhaps, and the taxpayer would at least benefit to some extent rather than not at all. Anything at least would be preferable to the apathy which currently exists in this situation.

I have also written to Mrs Thatcher in case you forget to inform her of this excellent idea.

Yours faithfully,
J. REES,
Bartlemas Road,
Oxford,
January 19.

From Mrs P. Tucker

Sir, The Government is about to introduce legislation to force absentee fathers to pay maintenance to their wives or former wives for the upkeep of their children.

It sounds a good idea. It saves the State money. It saves women who are bringing up children alone from having the additional problems of trying to get maintenance payments, and it punishes irresponsible fathers. But is it just? And is the primary motive really the interests of the children, as is usually claimed?

In our society, women who do not want the responsibility of looking after their children can wash their hands of them through adoption or abortion. If they abandon their families they are most unlikely to be expected to make any maintenance payment. Why is it fathers alone who are not

allowed to avoid unwanted parental responsibility?

Conversely, if we have the interests of the children at heart, we should encourage both parents to be parents in the true sense — not walking cash-dispensers. Although a mother's care is usually more important in the early years, it is the father who normally plays the crucial role in bringing children into responsible, independent adulthood.

If either parent is unable or unwilling to do the job, children need a guardian of the opposite sex in the remaining parent, who can take an interest in their development and provide the balance, support and variety that they require.

Yours faithfully,
P. TUCKER,
62 Kersey Crescent,
Speen, Newbury, Berkshire,
January 17.

From Mr David Windsor

Sir, Mrs Thatcher's enthusiasm for the family in the 1990s is no doubt commendable, but some of her Government departments have yet to get the message.

After paying monthly maintenance payments to my three children for the last seven years, I passed on a late-1989 salary increase entirely to my children and wrote to both the Inland Revenue and the county court advising them of this change.

The Revenue inform me that the "rules governing maintenance" were changed last summer and I can now claim tax-relief only on the sum that was registered in July, 1989.

Thus, any increase I (or other fathers) wish to make in the years ahead to support our children will cost us at least 25 per cent more than before. I must either allocate that 25 per cent from my salary or ask my children and ex-wife if they can live on less. Neither option sits comfortably alongside Mrs Thatcher's current eagerness for fathers to pay up and pay regularly.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID WINDSOR,
62 Bridport Road,
Thornton Heath, Surrey,
January 18.

From Mrs Caroline Hunt

Sir, It is difficult enough for the law to enforce payment from an ex-husband whose whereabouts is known, who turns up to visit his child, and who is earning good money. How can the Government hope to shackle the absentee father of a child whose address is unknown, who shows no interest in his offspring, and who could be unemployed?

Yours sincerely,
CAROLINE HUNT,
4 Fairview Road,
Salisbury, Wiltshire,
January 18.

guardians are nearly always present in court and absence is usually caused by sickness or fear of losing employment.

The causes of juvenile offending are complex, but the Government would do better by encouraging sufficient activities in the community to occupy young teenagers and by ensuring that there is practical help for families in difficulties. In the long term, how about putting education for parenthood into the schools' National Curriculum?

Yours faithfully,
SARAH CURTIS,
9 Essex Villas, W8.

Power of the pen

From Mr Graham Gubby

Sir, Your Diplomatic Correspondent, in yesterday's *Times* (January 17, letter editions), begins: "Rather than beating swords into ploughshares . . .". The biblical text for the same day: "Beat your ploughshares into swords . . .". Indeed a sign of hope when we can "forge" the idea of the pen being mightier than the sword — and for that long may a free press remain.

Yours sincerely,
GRAHAM GUBBY,
30 Warwick Road,
Bexhill on Sea, East Sussex,
January 18.

Cost of nannies

From Mr K. H. D. Preston

Sir, I am worried by recent calls (letters, January 12) for the cost of a nanny to be allowable expenditure for income tax. Although the sociological arguments against may well outweigh the macro-economic ones in favour, I fear the clamour of an articulate minority may be listened to by the legislators.

Single people have already suffered the inequities following the restriction of tax relief for mortgage interest to loans of £30,000 per property, even though, at least in London, young single people are forced to share ownership of a home due to its high price.

Taxpayers already subsidise children through free education, VAT zero-rating of clothing and exemption from poll tax, not to mention child benefit.

I employ a housekeeper and a gardener because I have neither wife nor time to perform these chores myself, but I do not obtain tax relief on this expenditure. I should object to married women obtaining tax relief for employing a nanny when their obligation and need for full-time employment is not beyond dispute.

Yours faithfully,
K. H. D. PRESTON,
6 Mount Royal,
Minehead, Somerset,
January 14.

Penalty for not owning TV set

From Mr Gerald Bonner

Sir, On January 12 my house was searched by two television-licence inspectors, accompanied by two police officers, on the suspicion that I was using a television receiver without a licence. No receiver was found, because I do not possess one.

Suspicion had been engendered by the fact that I had refused, over a period of several years, to answer inspectors' enquiries, since I did not see why I should have to deny possessing what I did not possess and did not want, when I was not legally compelled to do so.

No doubt my obstinacy inspired suspicion, but I am disturbed by certain aspects of the operation, apart from the inconvenience to my family. The numbers employed seemed a ridiculous waste of manpower.

More seriously, the search warrant which was produced was inadequately dated, omitting the year. This was important, because it was valid for one month only from the date of issue, and there was no written evidence that it had been issued in 1989; yet the document had been issued by the Durham magistrates' court, signed (not very legibly) by a JP, and had presumably been seen by the policemen and licence inspectors concerned. It would appear that those who enforce law and order do not apply their principles to their own affairs.

Finally, it is clear that, in Britain at the end of the 20th century, not to own a television receiver automatically makes an individual an object of suspicion and subject to investigation. This I find the most disturbing aspect of the affair.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD BONNER,
7 Victoria Terrace,
Durham,
January 15.

Pay by pendulum

From Mr John C. Bowis, MP for Battersea (Conservative)

Sir, When public or private monopoly services are withdrawn or disrupted by industrial action it is not just the protagonists who suffer; it is the physically or financially vulnerable members of our society.

That is why some of us have sought an employment world where the strike weapon is no longer usable when life, health or safety would be put at risk or where there is a virtual monopoly in the supply of the goods or services affected.

The problem has been to find a non-inflationary formula for pay settlements which would give the employee confidence that his pay would be dealt with fairly if he were to cease his right to strike. The concept of pendulum arbitration, eloquently espoused by David Davis (article, January 13), provides that formula.

This device — by which the arbitrator has to choose one final offer, rather than splitting the difference — is attractive to an increasing number of all parties. I also find that ambulance men believe it could be the way forward for their service, once the present dispute is over.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BOWIS,
House of Commons,
January 14.

River barrages

From Dr T. L. Shaw

Sir, Mr Wallis's statement (January 5) that tidal power barrages may tend to impound pollutants will seem logical but may not be correct.

The reasons for thinking otherwise relate to the way in which a barrage operates. The turbines and sluice gates distributed along much of its length of this type of barrage release water seawards (turbining phase) and then refill the basin, mainly through the sluices.

The effects of redistributing the incoming and outgoing tidal flows across the estuary may assist the exchange of water (and hence contaminants) between the basin area and the sea, thereby reducing concentrations. The recently published *Energy Paper No. 37* (HMSO) shows this effect in the context of the proposed Severn barrage; it could also apply elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
T. L. SHAW,
The Old Vicarage,
Ston Easton, Bath, Avon.

Fund-raising Scouts

From Mrs M. Yates

Sir, May I suggest to the admirable Paul Stephenson and the Scouts (letter, January 12) that they also aim to collect a million bags of litter during 1990 — and so set a trend for the subsequent 90s. Yours sincerely,
MARGARET YATES,
37 Lily Close,
St Paul's Court,
Colet Gardens, W14,
January 12.

Middle of the road?

From the Reverend D. Humphries

Sir, On filing a past sermon the other day, I noticed that the file in my system on "Anglicanism" comes between "Angels" and "Anxiety". Is there a message in this?

Yours faithfully,
DON HUMPHRIES,
Holy Trinity Vicarage,
1 Selwyn Gardens,
Cambridge,
January 12.

Straw
society
imped



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 21: Divine Service was held at West Newton Parish Church this morning.

The Reverend Canon George Hall preached the sermon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 21: The Prince Edward, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer, left Gatwick Airport, London this afternoon for New Zealand.

His Royal Highness was received at the Airport by His Excellency the New Zealand High Commissioner (Mr Bryce Harland).

January 20: The Prince Edward, President of the National Youth Music Theatre, this evening attended the Patron's Night production of "The Caucasian Chalk Circle" at Sadler's Wells Theatre.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Francis Bacon, Viscount St Albans, Lord Chancellor 1618-21, London, 1561; Sir Robert Cotton, antiquary, Denton, Huntingdonshire, 1570-171; Charles Leslie, dramatist, Kamez, Germany, 1729; George Gordon Byron, 6th Baron Byron, London, 1788; Paul Vidal de la Blanche, geographer, Rezenais, France, 1873; August Strindberg, dramatist, Stockholm, 1849; D.W. Griffith, film director, Floydfork, Kentucky, 1873.

DEATHS: William Patterson, financier, London, 1719; Horace Benedict de Saussure, physicist and historian, Geneva, 1978.

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Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron of the Homeopathic Trust, will attend a reception at the Royal Society of Medicine at 12.45.

Princess Alexandra will attend the private view of the annual international exhibition of the Royal Photographic Society at Hamiltons Galleries, Carlos Place, at 6.30.

The Valentine Ball

The Valentine Ball will be held at the Royal Albert Hall on Friday, February 16, 1990. There will be two bands, night clubs, casinos and a raffle for MENCAP. Invitations and £29 tickets from Mr Oliver Baxter 01-931 8849.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Charles Kean, actor-manager, London, 1868; Sir Joseph Whitworth, industrialist and engineer, Monte Carlo, 1887; Carlo Pellegrini, the cartoonist 'Ape', London, 1889; David Hughes, pioneer of telephony, London, 1900; Victoria, reigned 1837-1901, Osborne House, Isle of Wight, 1901; James Bryce, Viscount Bryce, historian, and politician, Sidmouth, Devon, 1922; Walter Sickert, painter, Bath, 1942; Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th president of the USA 1963-69, San Antonio, Texas, 1973; Herbert Sutcliffe, cricketer, 1978.

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The bride was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Lucy Church, Samantha Church, Sarah Church, Victoria Church, Kathryn Church, Elizabeth Church, Rebecca Leonard, William Church, and Phillip Church. Mr Robert Wainham was best man.

A reception was held at Cadogan Hall, Duke of York's Headquarters, London SW1, and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Marriages

Sir Peter Middleton and Mrs C. Owen

The marriage took place on Saturday in the Henry VII Chapel, Westminster Abbey, of Sir Peter Middleton to Mrs Constance Owen. The Dean of Westminster officiated, assisted by the Rev Alan Luff, Precentor.

Mr C.H.C. Smith and Miss C.E. Kerr-Smylie

The marriage took place on Saturday at St George's, Hanover Square, of Mr Christopher Smith, son of Sir Robert and Lady Smith, of North Lodge, Dunkeld, Perthshire, to Miss Charlotte Kerr-Smylie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Hector Kerr-Smylie, of Elms Hall, Colne Engaine, Essex. The Rev W.M. Aiken officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Samantha Kerr-Smylie and Timothy Bromley-Martin. Mr Philip Todd was best man.

A reception was held at Boodle's and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J.R.C. McLeod and Miss H.M. Cooper

The marriage took place on Saturday, January 20, at St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, of Mr James Roderick Charles McLeod, son of Sir Charles McLeod and the late Lady McLeod, of Malmesbury, Wiltshire, to Miss Helen M. Cooper, daughter of Captain George and Mrs G.T. Cooper, of Lilliput, Poole, Dorset. The Very Rev-

erend Christopher Phillips, Dean, St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Louise Hargrave, Miss Bongo Blewitt and Miss Heloise Peterson. The best man was Mr Michael Birley.

A reception was held at the Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong, and the honeymoon will be spent in Thailand.

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Barbara Stanwyck, the American film actress, died on January 20 at the age of 82. A queen of screen melodrama, she excelled at playing tough, resourceful and single-minded women, often with a dubious past. A colleague, Walter Matthau, once remarked: "When she was good, she was very, very good, but when she was bad she was terrific."

She was both bad and terrific as the scheming murderess of *Double Indemnity*, her most famous role. But she could suffer convincingly as well, as she did playing the fraught heroines of *Stella Dallas* and *Sorry, Wrong Number*. Though she did not have quite the star appeal of other formidable screen ladies, like Joan Crawford or Bette Davis, Barbara Stanwyck was much admired for her professionalism and seldom gave a poor performance. She made more than 80 films and was four times nominated for an Oscar, though she never won. Her career took a new lease of life through television and in her 70s she played the matriarch in the soap opera, *The Colbys*.

She was born Ruby Stevens in Brooklyn, New York, on July 16, 1907. Orphaned aged four, she was brought up in foster homes and by an older sister. She left school at 13 and worked as a typist while pursuing her ambition to become a dancer.

At 15 she was a chorus girl, at 17 she toured with the Ziegfeld Follies and before she was 20 she had a leading part in a long-running Broadway play, *The Noose*. She made her first film, *Broadway Nights*, in New York in 1927 but her film career did not take off until she went to Hollywood three years later.

Helped by her first husband Frank Fay, the vaudeville artist, she soon got established and, unusually, had contracts with two studios, Warner and Columbia. She owed much of her early success to the sympathetic guidance of leading

directors like William Wellman and Frank Capra. For Capra in 1933 she made *The Bitter Tea of General Yen*, the bizarre story of a woman missionary who falls in love with a Chinese warlord. Considered daring in its time, the film's eroticism caused it to be banned in Britain and some other countries.

During the 1930s she played the title role in *Annie Oakley*, and she was another tough woman of the West in Cecil B. de Mille's *Union Pacific*. She was also in John Ford's film of the Sean O'Casey play, *The Plough and the Stars*.

Her outstanding performance of this period, however, was in *Stella Dallas* (1937). King Vidor's accomplished tear-jerker about mother love and self-sacrifice. The performance gained Stanwyck her first Oscar nomination.

Her career reached its peak during the 1940s. She showed her gift for wisecracking comedy as the cardsharp who cheats Henry Fonda in the Preston Sturges film, *The Lady Eve*,

SOME REVIEWS MAY BE REPRINTED FROM SATURDAY'S LATER EDITIONS

THE ARTS

Two of a rare kind reunited

TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

Twenty-seven years after Sir David Lean and Robert Bolt first worked together on *Lawrence of Arabia*, and a decade after Bolt's crippling heart attack, the two came together last night for a *South Bank Show* (ITV) which went a long way towards explaining and defining arguably the most important partnership in the history of British cinema.

Though the programme did not dwell on their separate origins, there is no doubt that their need for each other was both mutual and immediate. Lean had come up through wartime British film studios as an editor and then director, working on stories by Charles Dickens and Noel Coward. Bolt was a schoolmaster and socialist intellectual who got arrested on Aldermaston marches and had to be sprung from jail by his producer, Sam Spiegel. He had already written *A Man for All Seasons* as a play when Lean sacked his screen-writer on *Lawrence* (though, maddeningly, the Melvyn Bragg interview failed to tell us who this was) and took on Bolt.

From there through to *Doctor Zhivago* to the much less successful *Ryan's Daughter* and then the unmade *Murder on the Bounty*, during which Bolt suffered his heart attack, their partnership has been that of the visual imagist and the academic wordsmith. It would have been good to know how they reacted to the setbacks of their later movies, or whether Lean accepts that, when he had to become his own screen-writer on *A Passage to India*, the result was not as good. It was wonderful to see them working together again on *Nostramo*.

Tactfully using sub-titles for much of the Bolt interview, David Thomas's film focused on *Lawrence of Arabia* and hinted at some remarkable parallels between subject and author. Too little was made of the remarkable role of Sarah Miles in Bolt's recovery, but this managed unusually to be both the record of courageous human survival and the chronicle of a classic film-making partnership.

The *Media Show* (Channel 4) had a chilling survey of game-shows past and future. How would it be, mused one producer, if we offered tickets to Glyndebourne instead of deep-freezers, to pacify the critics? During Jo Durden-Smith's intriguing Soviet culture documentary following it, one reflected that *glasnost* may yet lead to innumerable Soviets "coming on down", if global television means more rubbish crossing more frontiers.

This idea has always been the basis of London Weekend Television's international tele-mockery show. It was pioneered by Denis Norden, perfected by Clive James and now inherited by Chris Tarrant, who opened a new season last night by dredging the Eurovision archives for their tackiest clips. There is something smug and uneasily chauvinistic about this series, and though Tarrant is a vast improvement on the previous host, Keith Floyd, his script lacks the wit of Clive James, or the savvy of Denis Norden.

Steven Berkoff confides to Robert Gore-Langton his identification with Oscar Wilde, whose *Salomé* he is bringing to the West End



Putting the boot in? Steven Berkoff, "scourge of the theatre" on the set of Wilde's *Salomé*, his "obsession"

Hypnotizing the imagination

In the cavernous, gilt surroundings of the Waldorf Hotel's Palm Room, Steven Berkoff, the scourge of the theatre world, reverentially utters the opening words of *Salomé*. Oscar Wilde's drama-poem about the tetrarch Herod: "How beautiful is the princess Salomé tonight." He goes on: "I've waited 10 years to hear that first line. The generation period of all my work is seven years, that's why I'm sensitive to sarcastic or un-researched criticism."

As writer, director and actor, he comes across as both aesthete and gangster (an image enhanced by his occasional cameos as nasty villains in Hollywood action films). The RSC may not do his plays, but students and prisoners — especially lifers in for murder — are amongst a cultish audience attracted to the power of his blank verse plays such as *East and Decadence*, his stagings of Poe and particularly Kafka, whose book *Metamorphosis* provided him with his first hit. In *Metamorphosis* — "the most horrifying story ever written" — Berkoff himself was the man-turned-bug.

His career — strongly influenced by his mime training under Jacques Le Coq in Paris — has been dedicated to his high-octane theatre of movement. Menacing, scabrous and expressionistic, his is an imaginative antidote to modern English naturalistic drama.

Salomé comes to the West End via the Royal National Theatre and originally the Gate Theatre in Dublin. As a production it is well within the Berkoff style, even if *Salomé* is a deviation from the proletarian drama which he has always espoused. "It is a passion

with me," he says, ending every phrase with an invisible exclamation mark. "No, it's more of an obsession."

"I read everything about Oscar. The pain and suffering of his life, the humiliation, being picked up in Chelsea, the police station, the trial. I feel it myself. I felt I was embodying Wilde and wanted to create for him the most spectacular monument dedicated to him. My approach is almost as a devotee at the altar."

Salomé was fuelled by Wilde's passion for the parasitic Lord Alfred Douglas, who had a hand in its translation (it was written in French and held the stage on the Continent but was banned in England). "The text to me has become almost holy," Berkoff says. "The only way I could see of doing the play was to say the words like an incantation, very slowly, with musical accompaniment, and with everyone walking as if carrying precious porcelain."

"The play is therefore seen in slow-motion. Mime defies the laws of science and that is what theatre should be. Slow-motion expands your vision, it is a sort of hypnosis of the imagination."

Critical reaction to date has been to praise the theatricality of the show, with doubts about the play itself. *Salomé* is to the English taste over-perfumed, bejewelled, a work that, when published, was lent extra daring by Beardsley's phallic illustrations. Berkoff is appalled at the idea of it being regarded as decadent poetic mush.

"There can be no such thing as a great production of a poor play. For God's sake, it inspired Strauss to write one of the great operas of the century. It's a superb, black

savage fantasy; its language is a multi-faceted jewel. There is nothing like it."

"Wilde has created in Herod, my part, a cross between a savage dictator and an opulent sensualist afraid of hurting John the Baptist. But for *Salomé* (Kate Schlesinger) the most sensual dish must be the lips of a professed celibate, the man closest to Christ, John the Baptist. His severed head is a dish that has to be savoured."

"This is pure *fin de siècle*. In *Salomé* Wilde is talking about his own feelings, his own passion. His comedies were just his conversation. They are insignificant. This is the play he fought for and really believed in."

For Berkoff, the English theatre is a dismal place which has produced "a lost public" who now go to the cinema. *Salomé* gives free rein to the sort of stage maximalism that is missing. "People identify with American cinema — film after film comes out of the streets of New York — people are fascinated. Thou Shalt Have Energy. It's a pre-requisite of film. My audience has been coming to my plays because that's what they get."

Wilde and Berkoff may seem an odd mix — "your sweetest dream or your worst nightmare", as he puts it — but later this year he will be becoming his own author once again. There is certainly no evidence that he will be toning down his act, on stage or off.

"Listen, a boxer reaches his peak at 28, an actor at around 30," Berkoff, at 53, is still a contender.

Salomé opens tonight at the Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, London WC2

Not so predictable

CONCERT

Paul Griffiths

SCO/Davies
Glasgow

Peter Maxwell Davies's formidable output of symphonies and concertos in the last decade, roughly one a year, means that expectations tend to be lifelessly homogenized, and the words hang ready for use. There will be "brooding intensity" in the slow movement, a Scottish dance flavour in faster music, a reflection of the cold, clear Northern Lights, a highly charged brilliance in the solo writing (if any), a tension between classical sonata-style dynamism and seamless polyphonic contemplation.

Well, all that turns out to be perfectly applicable to his new half-hour Strathclyde Concerto No 3 for horn and trumpet, but it cannot convey the shock of discovering a work which plays the familiar game quite so dangerously.

Of course, a double concerto for these instruments would be nothing if it were not dangerous, and Davies provides solo parts of quite extravagant difficulty: extremely high trills for the trumpet, whoops for the horn, ripping cascades of semi-quavers from both instruments, and from both, too, a nimble dexterity in so much dancing rhythmic irregularity. Robert Cook and Peter Franks played with bravery and with a nice feeling for the swell of Davies's long melodic lines, while leaving a little room to amaze him still more at future performances.

But the tournament of the soloists only accounts for a small part of the surprise of this score: there is also the disarming simplicity of many of its gestures and formal gambits. Even given the experience of the Fourth Symphony, which was Davies's immediately preceding work for the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, this is music of clear colours and fresh devices, including harmonious wind chords and an astonishing orchestral whirlwind.

It also seems designed to give the lie to those of us who have wondered about the audibility of Davies's harmony: the climaxes feel internally powered, and the last cadence is startlingly final.

In melody, too, the work is immediate, with more small-step near-tonal tunes than perhaps in anything Davies has written since he was 12. And the riskiness of the moment when the trumpet, over a bare fifth, sounds the Last Post is quite staggering. Davies's world suddenly seems more open than at any time since the mid-1970s.

Unlikely hero in a still-timely glimpse of Hell

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

Bent
Lyttelton

Contemporary plays rarely get revived these days, especially at posh addresses: so it is pleasing to find Martin Sherman's *Bent*, first staged at the Royal Court in 1979, ensconced at the National. It was always an intelligent, feeling play, and time has actually sharpened its edge.

True, only an extreme few are so far wondering if homosexuals should be siphoned from society, before their blood contaminates the rest of us. But it is still worth remembering where not wholly dissimilar thinking once led.

As if to emphasize this, the play begins deceptively, plunging us into what innocent spectators might think a flat in Earls Court or Greenwich Village now. There is much loathe banter about leather, cocaine, gay clubs, pain being "chic". Then Ian McKellen's smirking Max opens the door — and there is an SS man, who slits the throat of the rough trade he brought home last night.

Sean Mathias's production, stuck with minimal décor, muffles the shock by letting us glimpse the intruder before he knocks, and tends afterwards to be slacker, less tense than the Court original. But the point is made, and the play strong enough to retain its hold.

Today's supposed London or New York is really Berlin 1934.



Genuine, unorthodoxly expressed love: Horst (Michael Cashman, left) and Max (Ian McKellen) in *Bent*

and before long Max is in Dachau, having first amused his captors by murdering his lover and having sex with a dead 13-year-old girl. Are such touches excessive? Maybe; but to say so would be a bit like calling *Hell* melodramatic. Sherman has evidently done his homework on the death camps, and knows how satanically homosexuals were treated there. But that is not all he tells us.

What interests him more is the growth of the human spirit as

represented by the unlikely Max: no heroic ad for gay pride, but a liar, trimmer, fixer, and, as he believes, survivor. Sherman knows that the more unsentimentally conceived the character, the more it will mean when Max finds a genuine if unorthodoxly expressed love, or substitutes a naive triangle for the supposedly more privileged yellow star he has wangled for himself, or... but I must not reveal the ending. Enough to

report that altruism, honesty and defiance can exist, even in the inferno.

Michael Cashman lacks the grit

and gristle Tom Bell originally

brought to Max's Dachau lover;

but McKellen's Max shows no

parallel deterioration, perhaps

because McKellen played Max in

1979 too. There is still slyness and

disbelief, and self-disgust and

horror, and pain and, finally, an

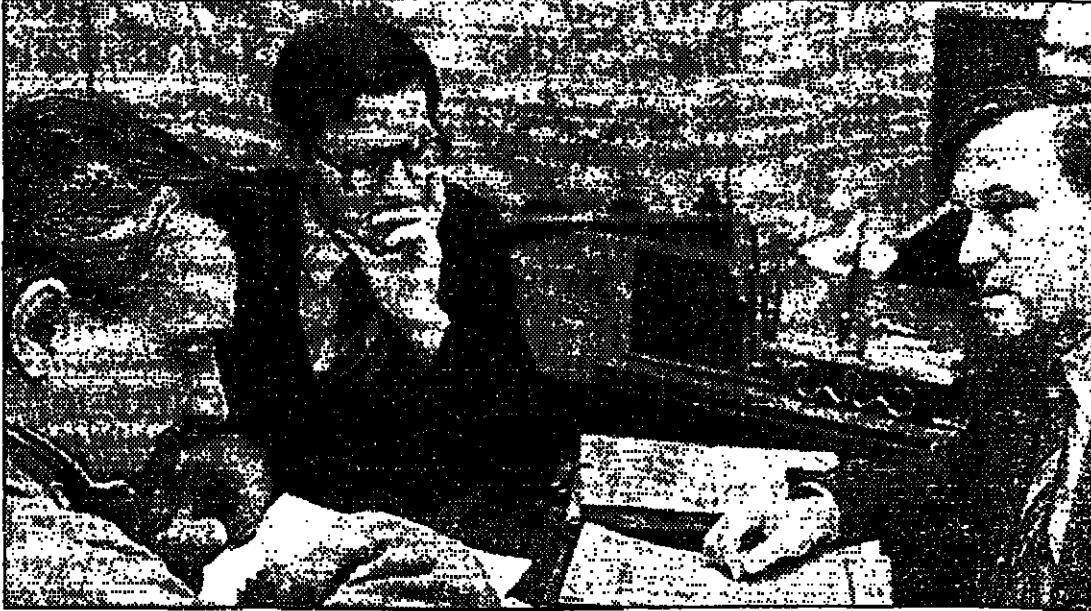
outrage beyond pain. It is a rich

performance; an eloquent play.

Listen to the banned, so that their suffering was not in vain

Peter Lewis meets Vitaly Schentalinsky, who is leading the fight for the "rehabilitation" of thousands of Soviet writers silenced by Stalin

ROGER GRAEF



At the Lubianka: Schentalinsky (left) with KGB men of the "Anti-Troika" commission on banned writers

About 2,000 Soviet writers were silenced under Stalin for "anti-Soviet activity". Their work was confiscated, sent to the Labour camps or into exile. No one knows how many were shot, like Isaac Babel, the great short story writer, or "died" in captivity like the poet, Osip Mandelstam, because the records were hidden.

They were all victims of the KGB and its predecessors, so it comes as a shock to be told that an apparently penitent KGB is now combing its archives to enable their work to be published.

Under *glasnost*, the Commission for Rehabilitation of Soviet Writers was set up to find out what happened to them and to find and publish what is left of their manuscripts. Its moving spirit is the writer Vitaly Schentalinsky, who is regularly summoned to the KGB headquarters, the Lubianka, to be shown what the KGB has found in their files at the commission's request.

So far they have come up with some pretty sensational discoveries, including their copy of Mikhail Bulgakov's diaries (which he burnt when they were returned to him). Nikolai Kluyev, shot in 1937, was rated by Akhmatova as one of the best poets of the time. The unpublished poems in his file were the evidence against him, like Mandelstam's ode to Stalin ("fat slimy fingers like worms", "cockroach moustaches"), which has also been found in his own handwriting.

Further discoveries are expected. The KGB itself does not

know what it has. Other imprisoned writers, whose names were never known because they began to write in the camps, are being read for the first time. A woman of 86 volunteered 11,000 pages of camp diaries accompanied by 700 drawings of the Gulag which she had kept hidden for 25 years.

Ogonyok, the radical magazine with four million subscribers, is publishing the banned works regularly. Its editor, Vitaly Korotich, offered Schentalinsky space for

this purpose in every issue. Alas, there were no more stories by Babel. It is tantalizing to learn that the 15 files of manuscript that were confiscated when he was arrested went up the Lubianka chimney, as did the work of another victim, the novelist Boris Pilnyak. What was found was the order for Babel's execution, and his last plea on behalf of other writers whom he had been forced under torture to denounce.

One of the meetings of the

rehabilitation committee known as the "Anti-Troika" in the Lubianka was filmed for television by Roger Graef, editor of the Channel Four *Signals* programme, and will be shown on Wednesday at 9.15pm as part of "The Secret Life of the Soviet Union". In it a KGB man makes the un-Orwellian vow that "it is our sacred duty to re-establish historical fact and truth." Can those of us who have been followed, bugged and spied on by

the men in long overcoats — or watched spy thrillers — really believe in this conversion, which is supposed to have begun in the time of Andropov? Are the KGB the purveyors of *glasnost*, the sponsors of *perestroika*?

Vitaly Schentalinsky said, in London this week: "There is a struggle inside the KGB, as there is inside the party, between yesterday's men and today's. The young ones for whom Stalin and Khrushchev are ancient history want to change with the times. But there are many opposed to what we are doing. When we began we got threatening letters and phone calls from people who are frightened of the truth. Even some of those who had relatives in the camps don't want it gone into. We have to proceed very carefully."

"Literary history is an explosive subject in the Soviet Union. A whole tragic period of our literature was lost. We decided to get back what remains of it while the authorities are being helpful."

Korotich, who has Gorbachev's ear, has no illusions about the precariousness of the climate of truth-telling pioneered by his journal *Ogonyok*: "Of course people hate us and want to stop us. They say we are stirring up hatred." Schentalinsky, who was once an Arctic explorer, is a rugged optimist. He says: "People are beginning to come out and show us their letters and memoirs of this time. The paradox is that the banned writers did not disappear alive now that they are more living today."

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MONDAY PAGE

Life and death begin at forty

How is the French screen star and heartthrob Gérard Depardieu coming to terms with middle age? He spoke to Bryan Appleyard about his childhood, his work and his beliefs

Gérard Depardieu is 40. "All the anguish and the stress is different. At 30 you can be strong, at 40 you start to ask yourself questions about death, about everything... about death."

Michelangelo once said he had never expressed any idea that was not "arrayed in the lineaments of death". Neither has Depardieu. He begins every part he plays by imagining the character's death.

"I can't start on a character until I have seen his death," he insists, adding that he knew from the first time that the fortyish adulterer Bernard in his latest film, *Trop Belle pour Toi*, was destined to die of a heart attack — "from stress, from guilt, from panic".

He is, with the possible exception of Robert de Niro, the greatest screen actor in the world. Barrel-chested, huge-chinned and bulbous-nosed, he is built for operatic grandeur as when in *Jean de Florette*, as an anguished farmer, he hurls abuse at the skies for not bringing rain. But, equally, he can be doing nothing and yet still exude such a completeness of characterization that it becomes an effort to notice anybody else on screen. Indeed, it is in these nothings, as in the nothingness of death, that he finds the centre of his art.

"Sometimes people say to each other: 'What are you thinking?' and reply: 'Nothing.' But that is never true. There is always something. Say after 20 years of marriage a husband starts to look at his wife with cruel eyes. She asks him what he is thinking and he says nothing. But that is when

everything is happening. You must pay attention to the character especially when nothing is happening."

We are talking in an office in central Paris. Depardieu wears a grey suit and black shirt. His hair is light brown rather than the blond one always seems to remember from the movies and it is hippyish long. His eyes are round and slightly imploring or startled and his most frequent gesture is a lowering of one of his huge hands to the floor to indicate the act of diving deeply into a character.

His background is a kind of French national legend. It begins with his name — an ambiguous near-pun: depart, God; depart from God. "I used to be so proud of that. It's really like an insult, saying something terrible about God. Like a destiny..."

His father, too, saw the name as a kind of emblem. He was illiterate and signed himself merely with the two Ds from his surname. He was known by all simply as "DD".

Gérard was the third of six children and brought up in a small town near Bourges. He fled home and school at the age of 12. For three years he lived on the road among prostitutes and petty criminals as well as spending a short time in jail.

At 15 he arrived in Paris and enrolled at a theatre school. Something strange, almost indefinable, then occurred. The years on the road — spent without education and largely alone — had left Depardieu without a proper language. He had grown used

to the kind of mime employed by hustlers and, he says, his only real conversations were with himself, the trees and the sky. It was from there that sprang the characteristic Depardieu effect of a lonely man demanding an answer from God. Even when he starts silently at the camera, he can make you hear this voice.

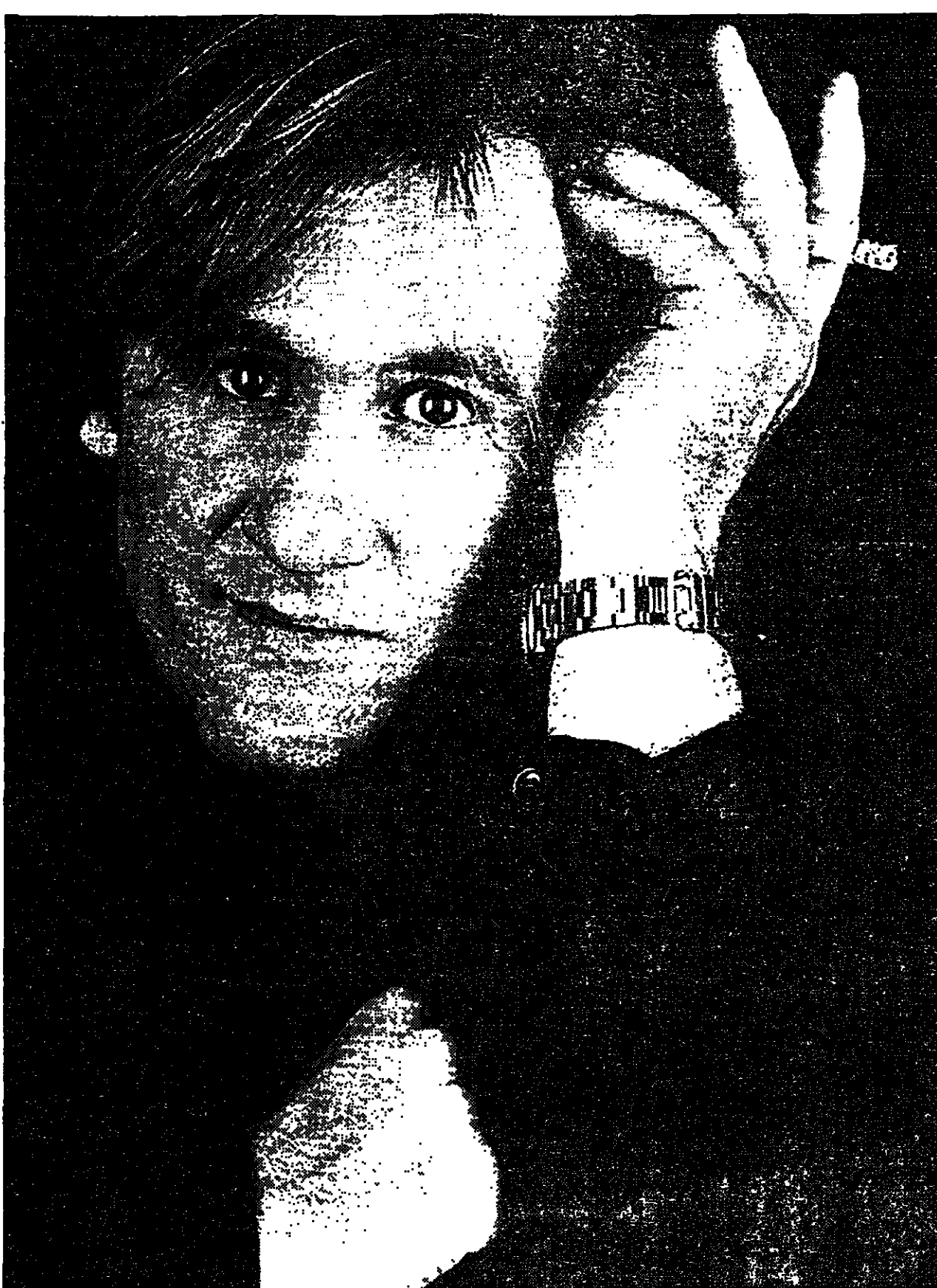
At the school he discovered that, in acting, his verbal incompetence became a curious kind of virtue.

"I learnt on the street to smile, to make people smile back. But I could not talk properly — if I asked a man the time he would run away because I was too aggressive. But when the words came in acting I heard them as music, without really understanding them. I felt hot when I heard certain speeches. I heard words like a complete innocent."

The written word was always to be something holy. He still regards scripts with awe and loathes the idea of improvisation — "I cannot think of better words than are in the script." He is even happy to act lines in complete ignorance of their meaning. He had once to speak English in an Alain Resnais film and he insisted on not being told precisely what the words meant.

Nevertheless, he has clearly now brought what was an instinctive approach to full consciousness and has even found a way of dramatizing this awareness. Next year in Paris he is to play three theatre roles: *Gilles de Retz*, *Othello* and *Macbeth*.

"In the movies we never find characters like these — it's



"It is a strange thing, this journey..." Depardieu fled home at 12 and spent three years on the road before learning his craft

a completely different form of expression. What I love in tragedy is that it is just flesh, blood, love and hatred. And I want to come to *Macbeth* without coming through *Hamlet*. Coming through *Othello* you follow this idea of the innocent. *Macbeth* is a total innocent, he wants to talk to his God. He looks upwards all the time. Innocents are not always wide-

eyed, sometimes they ask difficult questions." Consciousness of his own approach has also led him to understand the work of de Niro.

"I used to be very unfair to him. When you see his work, it is too hard. Bob is an artist and a true artist is only interested in the details — you think he must be crazy to be so obsessed with details. And I

didn't understand how he could be so possessed by a character. I couldn't imagine removing my life so completely from that of a character. I couldn't imagine going into a character alone as he seemed to. Later I realized he wasn't really alone. But I was young... I go a different route but perhaps we end up in the same place." Literally, however, they do

not. For Depardieu is a thoroughly French star who has never broken into the American or British movie industries. His English is understandable but poor and absurdly heavily accented, so, unlike de Niro, he can never hope to be a real part of the international movie business. "It makes me sad. Not having English is like not playing the piano. I some-

'I learnt on the street to smile, to make people smile back, but I could not talk properly — I was too aggressive'

times wish I was like Pavarotti, the music and the voice gives you all the feeling and the words are not so important. Maybe he doesn't even understand what he is singing."

For the most part this leaves him trapped inside the prolific but often fraught French industry. He turns out three films a year, and, though widely adored, he has his critics. Establishment figures dislike his strange way with the mother tongue and his cavalier dismissal of their rituals — he once said the Cannes Festival was for local hairdressers.

With some relief he points out that his next two projects — producing Satyajit Ray's new film in India and playing a French immigrant in a Peter Weir film set in America — will both take him out of the French hothouse.

He has been married for 20 years and has two children. For the past four years he has been making his own wine at a château in Anjou.

A year ago his mother died and then, five months later, his father, the old DD, who left the legacy of a pun, a destiny. All that plus turning 40 has concentrated the Depardieu mind. Death has become something more personal than an acting device.

"My father used to hold this little box in his big hands. It was full of medicine. He would say: 'This is my life.' I would say: 'No, don't worry.' Then he went into hospital and died. I regret we never spoke enough, but everybody feels that. But I do still speak to him like I used to speak to the trees, the sky or God. But maybe we should not be afraid of death. My grandmother, just before she died, said she was going to see her mother and father. She was completely at peace. It is a strange thing, this journey..."

● *Trop Belle pour Toi*, directed by Bertrand Blier, opens in London in March.

Making old furs fly away

Green sympathies are one thing, but getting rid of the once-prized mink coat you would no longer be seen dead in is not easy

Fine. So your conscience, the Greens and Animal Lib have got the better of you and you've stopped wearing your once much-coveted, and now much-depised, fur. But one question remains: what on earth do you do with the blessed thing?

One fur owner was so desperate she decided to abandon hers in an exclusive London department store, thinking someone there would give it a good home. To her horror, she received a telephone call from the store a month later. It had tracked her down.

If abandonment is not the answer, what else can you do with your fur? Do you sneak it into cold storage in case opinions turn full circle? Do you stuff it in the dark recesses of your wardrobe because you cannot bear to chuck out an item which cost a fortune in the first place? Or is it still possible to sell it to someone who doesn't share your qualms?

Several telephone calls to London and provincial dress agencies — specializing in second-hand quality clothes — confirmed it is now well-nigh impossible to sell even an ordinary coney jacket this way. One such shop (which was paranoid about being identified) confessed to selling off "famed current stock" bought in last year, but certainly was not buying any more. Another agency, Pamela of Walton Street, will not touch the stuff: "Everyone is always asking us how to dispose of their furs."



Wrapped up: Elizabeth Taylor epitomizes fur's former glamour one despairing assistant said. "If you find a way, please let us know."

Even the official fur trade was sceptical — not on moral grounds, mind you, but on the flimsy issue of fashion. "You won't find many furriers buying in second-hand coats; customers like new styles," sniffed David Liney, media executive of the British Fur Trade Association.

Well, we've got news for Pamela, Liney *et al*. After lengthy — and I mean lengthy — investigations via furriers and the Yellow Pages, I finally tracked down two dealers who still buy fur cast-offs. Both asked not to be named. One admitted he "sells mainly to tourists who come in off the street" and also exports to America, Italy, Korea and

Japan, "where the market is still enormous. We've had quite a few British clients recently wishing to sell because they don't want to be seen out in their furs. We take a straight 10 per cent if we make a sale."

Another possibility is to sell your fur abroad personally and cut out the British dealer. For example, you could pop into Victoria Street in London, where the Department of Trade's Export Market Information Centre lists thousands of foreign fur dealers. Or you could even catch a flight to Italy, where the Chamber of Commerce maintains the market is lively, and conduct a transaction in person.

There are also auctions and classified ads. Most auction

Do you sneak it into cold storage? Or is it still possible to sell it to someone who doesn't share your qualms?

giants — including Philips, Bonhams and Sotheby's — have banned furs from their sales. But provincial auctions do not seem to share their fears, although you might not get quite the demand (or the price) for your furred mink that you would have done a couple of years ago. One fur dealer tells would-be sellers to scour the ads in *The Lady*, *Logue* and other glossies. "They're as good a bet as any," agreed a girl from *Draper's Record*, one of the retail trade journals. "One could also try the local paper 'For Sale' columns, although there's still the risk of phone abuse."

If all else fails, you could always give the thing away, although even that can be difficult. Sue Ryder shops are still accepting what is fast becoming a four-letter word (starting, of course, with "m"), although at Oxfam there are discussions about whether charity shops should continue to accept such controversial rejects.

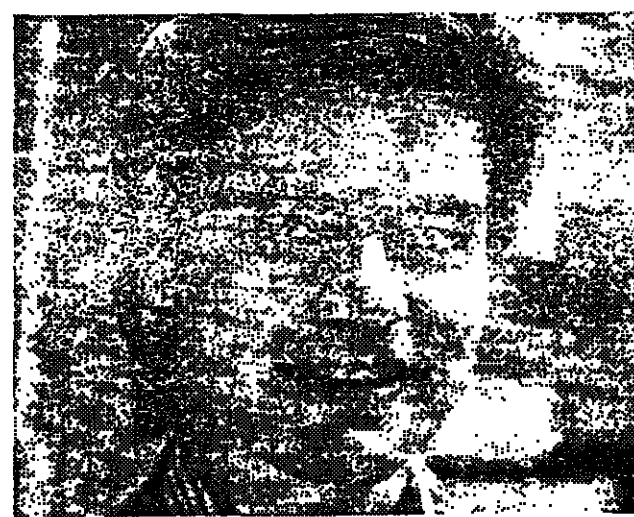
Of course, there's always the outside chance you might regret selling in future years. Alan Norman, an established Leeds fur dealer, has stopped buying in second-hand furs now because he can't sell them locally: "But I've a feeling they'll come back in the not-so-distant future, so it's worth hanging on to them."

Maybe, maybe not. Frankly, I'm glad I own a cashmere.

Jane Bidder

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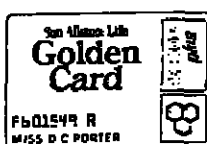
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TOMORROW

Powerful new names have come into play in the world of haute couture. Liz Smith reports from Paris on the trends being dictated by the new breed of fashion tycoons, as well as the look for the Nineties

INFORMATION SERVICE

Laughter before war

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
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THEATRE

LONDON

★ **ASPECTS OF LOVE:** Lloyd Webber musical based on a David Garrow novel: many dull patches. Prince of Wales Theatre, Coventry St, (01-839 5972). Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm, £15-25.

★ **BARNABY AND THE OLD BOYS:** Jim Gascoigne. Keith Barker. Jennifer Hilary in Gascoigne's interesting though over sentimental drama of Welsh prejudice. Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-839 9987). Tue: Charing Cross. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, mats Thurs 2.30pm and Sat 4.30pm, £7.50-£15.

★ **BLOOD BROTHERS:** Willy Russell's sentimental musical, separated twins destroyed by the English class system; Angela Richards as their mother. Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115). Tue: Leicester Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45-10.45pm, mats Thurs 3.5pm and Sat 4.30pm, £6.50-£15.50. (D)

★ **BOOTS FOR THE FOOTLESS:** Brian Behan's sprightly Irish comedy set in the wild world of rent dodgers and red agitators at the Festival of Britain; plenty of laughter. Tricycle Theatre, 269 Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (01-328 1000). Tue: Kilburn. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, £4.50-£8.

★ **DIVERSIONS AND DELIGHTS:** Oscar Wilde looks back on his life in Donald Sinden's one-man show. Limited season. Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (01-839 4401). Tue: Sinden. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm, £15-£25.

★ **HEDDA GABLER:** Elizabeth Quinn. Richard O'Callaghan in new adaptation of Ibsen's screw-turning mental drama. King's Head Theatre, 115 Upper St, N1 (01-262 1916). Tue: Highgate and Islington. Tues-Sat 7.45-10.15pm, mats Sat 3.30-5.45pm and Sun 3-5.15pm. Tues, Wed and mats 27, Thurs, Fri and Sat eve 28. Dinner 6.45pm.

★ **JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL:** Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known man-about-town locked into his favourite pub overnight and meeting friends from his past. Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (01-437 2663). Tue: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mat Sat 5.30pm, £5-£15.

★ **M. BUTTERFLY:** The mysteries of love, gender and the Orient superbly staged by John Dexter. With Peter Egan as the French diplomat, Rene Gilmair. Shaftesbury Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, WC2 (01-379 5051). Tue: Holborn. Mon-Sat 8-10.20pm, mats Fri and Sat 5.20pm, £7.50-£16.50. (D)



Steven Berkoff (above) as Herod in his expressionist and spellbinding production of Oscar Wilde's *Salome*, which opens tonight at the Phoenix Theatre in London (see listing). The nine-week season follows a sell-out run at the National Theatre which ended in December. Katharine Schlesinger again plays the title role, with Carmen du Sautoy as Herodias and Rory Edwards as Jokanaan. *Salome* was a hit of last year's Edinburgh Festival before being restaged by Berkoff for the National.

★ **NOEL AND GERTIE:** Patricia Hodge and Simon Cadell spar, sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's trip down Memory Lane. Comedy Theatre, Penton St, London SW1 (01-830 2378). Tue: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm, mats Wed 3pm and Sat 6pm, £5.50-£16.

★ **OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD:** Trope Wertensbaker, set in New South Wales 200 years ago when a batch of convicts are ordered to become actors. Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross Rd, EC2 (01-379 6107). Tue: Leicester Sq. Mon-Thurs 8-10.20pm, Fri and Sat 8.15-10.20pm, mats Fri and Sat 5.20pm, £7.50-£15.

★ **PRINCE COMMANDING:** Performance by Sheila Hancock as a rude, snobbish, autocratic college principal with principles you have to admire. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (01-437 3686). Tue: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 7.45-10.15pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, mat Sat 4.30-7pm, £5-£15.

★ **SALOME:** See picture. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (01-379 6107). Tue: Leicester Sq. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm; mat Sat 6pm, £5-£15.

★ **SCENES FROM AN EXECUTION:** Glenda Jackson's return to the stage as the Renaissance painter pursuing her campaign for truth in Howard Barker's piece. Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-359 4404). Tue: Highgate and Islington. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm, £4.50-£12.50.

★ **SEVEN YEARS:** Howard Barker's prequel to Shakespeare's complex play about misgovernment and scruple. Excellently performed by Nicholas Le Prevost and the Woking School. Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Sq, SW1 (01-730 1745). Tue: Sloane Sq. Mon-Sat 8-10.45pm, Mon 8.45pm, Tues-Sat eve 8.15pm.

★ **A SLICE OF SATURDAY NIGHT:** Transfer of hit show from the King's Head that catches the sound and feeling of a night out in 1964. Arts Theatre, 61 Newport St, WC2 (01-836 2132). Tue: Leicester Sq. Mon-Thurs 8pm, Fri and Sat 8pm and 8.45pm, £7.50-£17.50.

★ **THARK:** Giff Rhys Jones and Dinsdale Landin in the classic Altdorf farce. Lyric Theatre, King St, London W6 (01-741 2311). Tue: Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.45pm; mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm, £9-£15; all mats 9.

★ **THE WOMAN IN BLACK:** Charles Kay and Dominic Letts are now the central cast in this superior spookhouse, equipped with haunted island, dense fog and mysterious deaths. Fortune Theatre, Russell St, WC2 (01-836 2238). Tue: Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 8-10pm; mats Tues 3-5pm and Sat 4-6pm, £7-£15.

★ **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-405 0072). ... Les Lialons: Daphne's Ambassadors Theatre (01-436 5111). ... Me and My Girl: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913). ... Les Miserables: Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). ... The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). ... The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). ... Run For Your Wife: Whitehall Theatre (01-867 1191). ... Standish Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8655).

FILMS

Also on national release

Advance booking possible

BACK TO THE FUTURE II (PG): Michael J. Fox and Christopher Lloyd zoom to-and-fro through the time spectrum: directed by Robert Zemeckis (108 min).

Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772). Progs 2.10, 5.25, 8.10.

Empire (01-437 1234). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45. Tue: Fri, Sat 11.15.

Whiteleys (01-792 3303). Progs 1.40, 4.10, 6.40, 9.10.

THE COOK, THE THIEF, HIS WIFE & HER LOVER (R): Peter Greenaway's bold take of love, revenge and haute cuisine. With Richard Bohringer (the cook), Michael Gambon (the thief), Helen Mirren (the wife) and Alan Howard (her lover) (120 min).

Cannon Piccadilly (01-437 3561). Progs 2.10, 5.00, 8.10.

Renoir (01-837 8402). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 6.05, 8.40.

DEAD POETS SOCIETY (PG): Robin Williams as an English teacher who

Kurt Hutton's famous photograph of girls on a merry-go-round (right) appeared in the first issue of the British illustrated magazine *Picture Post* in October 1938. In many ways the picture mirrors the false optimism that swept the nation one week after Chamberlain had returned from seeing Hitler in Munich, declaring: "I believe it is peace in our time." The caption to the photograph read: "Crisis forgotten, war scares blown away." But war was inevitable. Hutton, self-taught in photography, was born Kurt Hubschmann in Germany in 1893. Nazi persecution drove him to Britain in 1934 and, along with the photographer Felix Man, he became one of the mainstays of *Picture Post* from its launch until his retirement in 1950, a period interrupted only briefly in 1940-41 when he was interned on the Isle of Man. During his years at *Picture Post* he covered many big news events, but was never happier than when an assignment allowed him to concentrate on ordinary people. Simple things such as children returning to school and women trying on hats in a shop allowed him to convey an extraordinary sense of empathy. There is a quiet irony in the fact that a German should have been so adept at recording the British way of life. This exhibition concentrates on these more personal photographs. The Photographers' Gallery, Print Room, 8 Great Newport Street, London WC2 (01-831 1772) until February 23. No admission charge or prints for sale. Michael Young



instills in his pupils a dangerous love of poetry (128 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.40, 4.25, 6.15. Cannon Penton St (01-930 0631). Progs 1.45, 4.20, 7.05, 9.45. Odeon Kensington (01-862 5193). Progs 1.20, 3.55, 6.25, 8.50, 11.20. Screen on Baker Street (01-935 2772). Progs 2.55, 5.30, 8.10.

LAST STOP FOR BROOKLYN (R): Raw, powerful version of Hubert Selby Jr's once-controversial novel of Brooklyn life, directed by Ulrich Edel (102 min). Odeon Leicester Square (01-612 5644). Progs 1.10, 3.40, 6.15, 8.50. Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905). Progs 1.10, 3.40, 6.00, 8.40. West End (01-836 5252/7615). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.05, 8.45.

MYSTERY TRAIN (15): Episodic film from Jim Jarmusch, focused on the overnight visitors at a Memphis hotel (113 min). Lumiere (01-836 0691). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.25, 8.50. Screen on the Green (01-226 3520). Progs 4.00, 6.40, 8.50.

PARENTHOOD (12): Heart-warmer from Ron Howard about the joys and sorrows of raising children (114 min). Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772). Progs 2.20, 5.25, 8.10. Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.10, 6.10, 9.05. Cannon Oxford St (01-636 0310). Progs 1.00, 3.50, 6.15. Late today, tomorrow 11.20.

Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 6279). Progs 2.15, 5.05, 7.55. Nothing Hill Coronet (01-727 6705). Progs 2.00, 5.25, 8.10. Plaza (01-437 1234). Progs 12.15, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30. Whiteleys (01-792 3303). Progs 12.30, 3.15, 6.05, 8.35. Tomorrow and Sun 1.00, 3.45, 6.20, 8.55.

ROSALIE GOES SHOPPING (15): Broad range from director Percy Arden and the aspie Marianne Sägebrecht (94 min). Cannon Shaftesbury Ave (01-836 6279). Progs 1.20, 3.40, 6.00, 8.20. Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772). Progs 2.25, 4.40, 6.55. Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366). Progs 2.55, 4.55, 7.05, 9.00.

SHIRLEY VALENTINE (15): Warm-hearted film with Pauline Collins as the Liverpool housewife rediscovering romance (109 min). Empire (01-200 0200). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.

35 Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.10, 6.10, 9.20. Minerva (01-235 4225). Progs 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Whiteleys (01-792 3303). 1.20, 3.50, 6.20, 8.50, tomorrow and Sun 11.20, 1.40, 4.20, 6.50, 9.20.

TURNER AND HOCH (PG): Predictable cop-and-dog antics given some charm by Tom Hanks as the police investigator. Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.45, 4.10, 7.10, 9.40. Odeon Kensington (01-602 5644). Progs 12.30, 3.00, 5.30, 8.15. Odeon Leicester Square (01-612 5644). Progs 1.10, 3.40, 6.15, 8.50. Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.

WHEN HARRY MET SALLY (15): Romantic comedy, with Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan as professional Manhattanites who gradually fall for each other (95 min). Camden Parkway (01-267 7034). Progs (not Sun) 3.30, 5.45, 8.30, Sun 5.00.

Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 7.20, 9.45. Odeon Kensington (01-602 5644/5). Progs 1.30, 3.55, 6.25, 8.55. Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905). Progs 1.50 (not Sat, Sun), 4.15 (not Sat, Sun), 6.30, 8.50. Odeon Leicester Square (01-612 5644). Progs 1.50, 4.05, 6.20, 8.35. Whiteleys (01-792 3303). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.10, 8.55, tomorrow and Sun 11.30, 1.45, 4.15, 7.00, 9.25.

TELEMAN TUNES: Brenda Stewart and Keith Grouse solo in Tremonti's exciting Concerto for Two Violas with the Leicestershire Ensemble, conducted by Peter Lush. This is followed by Brahms's Serenade No 2. St Anne and St Agnes's, Grays Heath, London EC2 (01-373 5566), 1.10-1.50pm, free.

CONCERTS

LUNCHTIME

★ KOVACIC/NORRIS: Ravel's Sonata, Stravinsky's Suite Italienne and Bartok's Rhapsody No 1 are heard from Ernst Kovacic (violin) and David Owen Norris (piano). St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1081), 1-2pm, £3.50.

★ TELEMAN TUNES: Brenda Stewart and Keith Grouse solo in Tremonti's exciting Concerto for Two Violas with the Leicestershire Ensemble, conducted by Peter Lush. This is followed by Brahms's Serenade No 2. St Anne and St Agnes's, Grays Heath, London EC2 (01-373 5566), 1.10-1.50pm, free.

EVENING

★ THE WINNERS: Mary Plazas, soprano, gives the National Federation of Music Societies/Esso Young Concert Artists Award Recital, singing Debussy's *Arlesienne*, Dvorak's *Slavonic Dances*, and items by Schumann, Gershwin and Walton. David Lloyd is at the piano. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141), 7.30pm, £2-£7.

★ LSSO/WARREN-GREEN: The London Schools Symphony Orchestra is conducted by Christopher Warren-Green in Wagner's *Meistersinger* Overture. Bruch's Violin Concerto No 1 (Lorraine MacLean, soloist). Elgar's Introduction and Allegro and some of Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* ballet music. Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-838 8891), 7.45-9.35pm, £5-£7.

★ PIPE DREAMS: Under the title "Pipe Dreams", Anna Pope (flute), Hilary Storer (oboe) and Maria Solimani (piano) play Goossens's *Pastorale* and *Andantino*, Poulenc's *Oboe Sonata*, Lennox Berkeley's *Sonatina*, Janet Graham's *From Duck to Dawn* and many other pieces.

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★ PIPE DREAMS:

TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Stephanie Billen

Short black and sides

Peter Waymark

It is good for us that the BBC revives comedy classics such as *Dad's Army* and *Partridge* but cruel on much of the current output, which inevitably pales by comparison. Channel 4, whose record in home-grown sitcom (as opposed to American imports) has been notably undistinguished, has brought back two of its shows, of which *Chelmsford 123* is no funnier than it was last time. *Trix* Worrell's *Desmond's* (Channel 4, 8.30pm) started more promisingly but a new series of 13 may turn out to be stretching a limited idea too thin. It is the one about the south London barber and his family, who came from the Caribbean, have vague yearnings to return and have meanwhile achieved a more or less satisfactory accommodation to the British way of life. Engaging performances, notably by Norman Beaton in the title role and Carmen Munroe as his wife, help things along and the show has a gentle, good-natured humour which is impossible to dislike. But there is none of the dazzling verbal wit that makes *Partridge* such a delight and not much in the way of a plot. Plotless sitcoms can thrive, as Roy Clarke has proved with *Last of the Summer Wine*. But the best ones tend to anchor their jokes on a strong narrative. A further difficulty with *Desmond's* is deciding exactly what it is about. Situation comedy demands a situation from which dramatic conflicts develop. *Desmond's* offers less a situation than an equilibrium.

In *World in Action* (ITV, 8.30pm) Patrick Murphy, a sociologist from Leicester University, comes up with the novel suggestion that an answer to football hooliganism may be to involve



Sisters united: See Law, player for the England women's team (ITV, 8.30pm)

more women in the game. A greater female presence, he argues, could soften and civilize the aggressive males. Since for many fans the whole point of football is to get away from the opposite sex, the idea seems unlikely to catch on. Chauvinism dies hard. Meanwhile a hapless official from the Football League tries to defend the common practice among clubs of banning women from boardrooms on match days.

BBC 1

- 6.00 *Cosfax*.
- 6.30 *BBC Breakfast News* with Nicholas Witchell and Kirsty Wark. Includes regular news headlines, business and financial reports, sports bulletins, regional news, weather and travel information, and a look at the morning newspapers with Paul Cattan. 6.55 Regional news and weather.
- 9.00 *News and weather* followed by *Open Air*. Viewers comment on the week's television.
- 9.20 *Kilroy*. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject.
- 10.00 *News and weather* followed by *The Flintstone Comedy Show*.
- 10.25 *Children's BBC*, presented by Simon Pegg, begins with *Playdays* (10.25) and *Peddington Park* (10.55) Five to Eleven. Richard Pasco with a reading.
- 11.00 *News and weather* followed by *Open Air*. Gloria Hunniford and Eamonn Holmes join by special guest Art Malik, taking calls about his role as a Pakistani tug-of-war father in LWT's new drama series *Stolen*.
- 12.00 *News and weather* followed by *Simon Pegg*. Joining Sue Cook and Andy Craig is Gemma Craven who sings hits from the musical *South Pacific*. 12.55 Regional news and weather.
- 1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Hayton. Weather.
- 1.30 *Neighbours*. Desperate Nick's words to Sharon, Brownwyn reassures her that the house is not for sale.
- 2.15 *News and weather* followed by *Gold*. Henry Kelly hosts another round of the European quiz show *Inside the Mind*. The show is in the audience when a blackmailer is murdered on stage (1.30) *Head of the Class*. Eric is embarrassed when his father turns up on day too early for the parents' evening.
- 3.25 *Bazaar*. Judith Stewart advises you on your rights when returning faulty sale goods. Alison Mitchell shows how to avoid the loan sharks. Kenneth Gardiner prepares a Caribbean dish with lamb, and DIY expert Harry Greene shows how a smoke detector works and where to fit it. Presented by Janice Long.
- 3.50 *Stoppit and Tidyp* narrated by Terry Wogan (1.40) *Fineman Sam* (1.40) *The Further Adventures of SuperTed*. Joining Sue Cook and Andy Craig is Gemma Craven who sings hits from the musical *South Pacific*. 12.55 Regional news and weather.
- 4.55 *Newsroom 5.05 Blue Peter*.
- 5.55 *Neighbours* (1.40).
- 6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. Weather.
- 6.30 *Newsroom South East*.
- 7.00 *Wogan*. Terry Wogan is joined by political broadcaster David Dimbleby. Paul Kennedy, author of *History at Yale University*. Journalist Simon Hoggart and Jacques Darras, the 1989 Reith Lecturer, to assess Britain's world role in the 1990s.
- 7.35 *Major Deal: Rescue Mission*. Having known Polly for only 10 days, proposed to her after seven and begun making wedding preparations. Mac's old friend Buzz decides to get him drunk and talk him out of it.
- 8.00 *Smileys Week*. Last *Smiley* performance. The *Smiley* team, Bruno Brookes, Pamela Brown, Wendy Richard, Frankie Vaughan and Bernice Winters. (Coefax).
- 8.30 *Survivors: The Mahogany Connections*. An examination of the threat facing the precious rain forest timber of the mahogany tree in its Brazilian jungle habitat.
- 9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather.
- 9.30 *Panorama: Sinking Into Squagor*. An examination of Britain's waste problem. Fred Emery reports from Labour-controlled Manchester and Conservative-run Canterbury.
- 10.10 *Miami Vice*. A rape victim decides to hire a hitman when her allegedly rehabilitated attacker is released from prison.
- 11.00 *Further on down the Road*. Three famous blues guitarists, Roy Buchanan, Albert Collins and Lonnie Mack, recorded together for the first time in 1985 at the Carnegie Hall in New York.
- 11.50 *Advice Show*. Hugh Scully and Helen Madden report on the DSS error which has given some pensioners a windfall in benefits (1.12.20am) *Weather*.

BBC 2

- 6.00 *TV-am* begins with *News and Good Morning Britain*, introduced by Linda Mitchell and from 7.00, by Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly. Includes news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00 and the first of the *Week's Past*. McCartney interviews at 8.30. After Nine includes fashion news and advice on revitalizing skin.
- 9.25 *Lucky Ladders*. Lennie Bennett hosts another round of the word quiz. Themes: News and weather.
- 10.00 *The Time*. A new Greek story. Mike Scott and his audience discuss a topic in the news.
- 10.40 *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. Today's edition includes a new Greek story, gardening, fashion, teaching children to swim and Jan Leeming's guide to popular crafts. With national news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national news.
- 12.10 *Playbox*, presented by Keith Chegwin and Pat Coombe. 12.30 *Home and Away*. Morag is seriously injured in a plane accident.
- 1.00 *News and weather* followed by *Thames News* and weather.
- 1.30 *Film: Demetrius and the Gladiators* (1954) starring Victor Mature and Susan Hayward. Demetrius, a free Greek slave, is entrusted with the robes worn by Christ at the Crucifixion, but he comes into conflict with the Emperor Nero. The story is set in Rome. Directed by Delmer Daves.
- 3.25 *Thames News and weather*. 3.30 *The Young Doctors*. Australian wheeler-dealer detective in the audience when a blackmailer is murdered on stage (1.30) *Head of the Class*. Eric is embarrassed when his father turns up on day too early for the parents' evening.
- 4.00 *Neighbours* (1.40) *The Real Ghostbusters* (1.40) *Children's BBC*. Joining Sue Cook and Andy Craig is Gemma Craven who sings hits from the musical *South Pacific*. 12.55 Regional news and weather.
- 5.10 *Who's the Boss?* American comedy series starring Tony Danza and Judith Light.
- 5.40 *News and weather* followed by *Thames News* and weather.
- 6.25 *Thames News* with Andrew Gardner and Liz Pike.
- 7.00 *Wish You Were Here*. A John Carter report on the charms of Italy's Amalfi coast, while Judith Chalmers travels to Arnhem with a company which specialises in holidays to battle sites. (Oracle).
- 7.30 *Coronation Street*. There seems to be no token in sight. Don and Derek's problems, but for Tina at least there's something to look forward to. (Oracle).
- 8.00 *Strike It Lucky*. General knowledge quiz game hosted by Michael Barrymore. *Prose Poetry*. Michael Barrymore. *History at Yale University*. Journalist Simon Hoggart and Jacques Darras, the 1989 Reith Lecturer, to assess Britain's world role in the 1990s.
- 8.30 *World in Action: Send For the Sisters* (see Choice).
- 9.00 *The Sweeney: Tomorrow Man*, starring John Thaw and Dennis Waterman. Tony Gray, computer expert, is released from jail after serving a two-year sentence for manslaughter. When his former business partner refuses to resign, Gray turns his attention to designing a sophisticated computer program which will provide a perfect means of revenge. With John Thaw and George Cole (1.12.20am) *Weather*.
- 10.00 *News and weather* followed by *Thames News*.
- 10.35 *Film: Murphy's Law* (1986), starring Charles Bronson. Alcoholic LA policeman Jack Murphy has his car stolen by a female thief, Arabella McGee. Meanwhile, Joan Freeman, whom Murphy jailed 10 years before, is released and sets out on a trail of killing. Directed by J. Lee Thompson.
- 12.30 *The Time Zone: The Hallelujah Method*. An alcoholic looks for an easy cure.
- 1.00 *Sportsweek Extra*. Tony Francis introduces highlights of the final six holes in the PGA West Senior Golf tournament. Followed by *News headlines*.
- 2.00 *Film: The Against the Rest of the World* (1980), starring Marius Müller-Arntsen. After having his stolen car, a driver is determined to pursue the thieves across Europe. Directed by Peter F. Brinkmann. Followed by *News headlines*.
- 4.00 *60 Minutes*. Interviews and investigations from the United States.
- 5.00 *ITN Morning News*. Ends at 6.00.

BBC 4

- 6.00 *News 6.15 Westminster*.
- 6.30 *Cosfax*.
- 9.00 *Daytime on Two: Electric Avenue*. 9.25 Spanish for beginners. 9.40 Smoking and health. 10.00 *For the Young*. 10.10 *Music Time*. 10.40 *For the Young*. 10.50 *For the Young*. 11.00 *For the Young*. 11.10 *For the Young*. 11.20 *For the Young*. 11.30 *For the Young*. 11.40 *For the Young*. 11.50 *For the Young*. 12.00 *For the Young*. 12.10 *For the Young*. 12.20 *For the Young*. 12.30 *For the Young*. 12.40 *For the Young*. 12.50 *For the Young*. 1.00 *For the Young*. 1.10 *For the Young*. 1.20 *For the Young*. 1.30 *For the Young*. 1.40 *For the Young*. 1.50 *For the Young*. 2.00 *For the Young*. 2.10 *For the Young*. 2.20 *For the Young*. 2.30 *For the Young*. 2.40 *For the Young*. 2.50 *For the Young*. 3.00 *For the Young*. 3.10 *For the Young*. 3.20 *For the Young*. 3.30 *For the Young*. 3.40 *For the Young*. 3.50 *For the Young*. 4.00 *For the Young*. 4.10 *For the Young*. 4.20 *For the Young*. 4.30 *For the Young*. 4.40 *For the Young*. 4.50 *For the Young*. 5.00 *For 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Clans in fight for purity of bloodline

By Sheila Conn
Political Reporter

A battle to maintain the purity of bloodline is being fought in the Scottish Highlands. The clans are fighting to keep their bloodlines pure and to prevent intermarriage between different clans.

Many of the clans are fighting to keep their bloodlines pure and to prevent intermarriage between different clans.

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Executive Editor
David Brewster
CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar

1.6455 (-0.0245)

W German mark

2.6121 (+0.0074)

Exchange index

88.1 (-0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1888.0 (-41.1)

FT-SE 100

2335.0 (-45.1)

USM (Datastream)

157.30 (-0.23)

Recession

now, says

economist

The economy has entered a

recessionary phase and gross

domestic product will fall 0.8

per cent this year, says Mr

Peter Warburton, chief economist

at Robert Fleming

Securities.

He says it may be possible

to pretend otherwise for a few

months, but the "evidence is

leaving heavily in the direction

of falling GDP." He

expects a return to 1 per cent

growth next year.

Real declines this year in

consumption, investment and

stockbuilding will only in part

be compensated by an abrupt

improvement in exports. Con-

sumer spending should fall by

1.1 per cent and business

investment will be down 3 per

cent. Improved exports

should bring the current ac-

count deficit down to almost

half the £20.2 billion expected

for 1989.

Mr Warburton says wage

inflation heading towards 10

per cent, against a background

of no great industrial conflicts.

is a product of "tax monetary

control." Inflation, as mea-

sured by the retail price index,

is likely to exceed last year's

peak of 8.3 per cent before

declining modestly in the

autumn.

Walker 'did not

break SE rules'

A spokesman for Brent

Walker yesterday denied the

leisure group had broken any

Stock Exchange rules or code

in selling a 17.3 per cent stake

in Baldwin, the holiday com-

pany, to the Singapore busi-

nessman Ong Beng Seng a

month before Baldwin was to

announce profits.

Brent Walker, headed by

Mr George Walker, inherited

the stake on buying Ellerman

Holdings, the drinks interest

of the Barclay Brothers, a year

ago.

The spokesman says that

despite Mr Walker being a

director of Baldwin, he had no

involvement with the com-

pany. As he did not own 30

per cent of Brent Walker, Mr

Walker did not break any

Stock Exchange guidelines.

Brent Walker had taken legal

advice before selling the stake.

The spokesman says that

despite Mr Walker being a

GEC and BAe win £1bn defence deals

By Angela Mackay

Britain and Malaysia have signed defence contracts awarding GEC and British Aerospace business worth about £500 million each.

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, and Danuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, Malaysia's Prime Minister, signed a memorandum of understanding at the end of 1988 which was expected to lead to deals worth about £1.5 billion for the supply of Tornado ground attack fighters, ground-based radar and missiles.

Since then there has been no further comment from either government or the defence companies involved.

However, sources in the British defence industry and the Malaysian government have confirmed that the contracts were signed in September and work has started.

GEC and BAe, the joint prime contractors, have been asked not to comment by the Malaysian government. However, both companies have been revealing bits of the deal to industry analysts.

Several sources said the deal was scheduled to be confirmed at the Commonwealth heads of government meeting last October in Malaysia's capital, Kuala Lumpur. However, Mrs Thatcher's strident opposition

to some of the policies espoused by the leaders of other Commonwealth countries stopped the Malaysians from releasing the news at that time.

When the understanding was signed, Dr Mahathir said it would begin "a new period in the relationship between Malaysia and Great Britain" and, hopefully, lead to even better things.

The contracts are to provide 12 Tornado aircraft built by BAe, Martello ground-based radar manufactured by GEC's subsidiary Marconi Command and Control, and ground-to-air as well as Rapier airborne missiles.

One source said the deal also included two frigates. However, this could not be confirmed.

A backwash of criticism over the terms of its purchase of Rover has haunted BAe lately. On the plus side, BAe said it could expect almost £2 billion in payments from Saudi Arabia for aircraft and missiles, in addition to the benefit of the Malaysian deal.

Malaysia has enjoyed a dramatic economic revival. Its economy shrank 1 per cent in 1985 and then stagnated for the next two years.

In 1988, the economy started turning around, propelled by the commodities boom. The growth rate surged

to 8.7 per cent in 1988 and 7.6 per cent in 1989.

This year the economy is expected to slow down a little but the government still forecasts growth of just more than 6 per cent, fuelled partly by strong domestic demand.

Defence companies are being re-examined by analysts after the events in Eastern Europe. Indeed reports filtered out of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization at the weekend that a multinational scheme to build a 21st century frigate has been abandoned. Speculation has been circulating for some time that the European Fighter Aircraft project is also in trouble.

There has been a dispute over the provision of the radar for EFA with Britain pushing Ferranti International's ECR 90 system over West Germany's APG 65.

The £47 billion (£28.5 billion) project will award several contracts to British groups if it goes ahead. Smiths Industries has won a series of development contracts worth £45 million for EFA avionics systems. If the project goes ahead this could balloon to £450 million of contracts.

Analysts said signing the Malaysian contracts was evidence that new markets for UK-built defence equipment were still emerging.

Airbus waiting on Aeroflot

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

An expected order for five Airbus A310 long-range, twin-engine jets from Aeroflot, the Soviet airline, this week will push the number of aircraft sold by the European manufacturing consortium to 1,334, worth well over \$80 billion (£48 billion).

With a backlog of 777 orders waiting to move on to the final assembly line at Toulouse, Airbus Industrie is becoming desperate to hear from British Aerospace that it has finally settled its long-running dispute with its engineers and can begin to supply wings again. Aerospa-

tielle, the French partner in the consortium, calculates it alone has lost £10 million as a direct result of the British strike.

With parts still rolling in from French and West German suppliers the staff car park at Toulouse has been taken over as a temporary storage area and a huge tent has had to be erected to keep crates out of the rain.

Production of new aircraft, which should have been running at the rate of at least 11 a month, has been slashed to fewer than two a month and at any time the line could come to a complete halt.

Airlines have been told that whatever happens, deliveries

will have to be delayed for at least two months.

The strike could not have come at a worse time for Airbus which is making significant inroads into the traditionally American-dominated commercial aircraft market and had managed to get ahead of its delivery schedules last year and doubled its annual production rate.

The unions have now given the company until later this week to come up with a settlement based on their demands for a 35-hour-week or else they will extend the strike to all plants 14 plants in the BAe empire.

Lawson linked with Barclays

By Gillian Bowditch

Speculation was rife yesterday that Mr Nigel Lawson, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, is to become a director of Barclays Bank.

Mr Lawson is a close friend of Sir Martin Jacobson, chairman of Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the merchant banking arm of the high street clearing bank.

It was announced last week that Sir Martin is staying on at Barclays de Zoete Wedd after his five-year term expires at the end of June.

A Barclays de Zoete Wedd spokesman ruled out the possibility of Mr Lawson joining the merchant bank either as a consultant or a director. "Mr Lawson is not joining Barclays de Zoete Wedd in any capacity." But the pos-

sibility of Mr Lawson joining the board of the parent bank remains.

Mr Lawson has long been believed to be interested in a top City banking job. His associates say he would rather be

a hands-on manager than a name on the notepaper.

Sir Martin was in the United States at the time of Mr Lawson's resignation last October, but the former Chancellor has discussed his future plans with him over the last three months.

Mr Lawson has not informed his constituents in Blaby, Leicestershire, of his future plans but this is unsurprising given the degree of secrecy at Barclays surrounding any appointment of Mr Lawson.

A spokesman for Barclays Bank said: "We do not comment on speculation", but added that he personally had no knowledge of Mr Lawson joining the bank in any capacity.

Wiltshire has USM float brewing

CHRIS BALCOMBE

By Our Industrial Editor

A 130-year-old brewery, bought out of receivership and now achieving £750,000 turnover a year, is today announcing a February float on the Unlisted Securities Market.

The chairman of Wiltshire Brewery Company, at Tisbury near Salisbury, is Mr Graham Axford, managing director of finance at James Capel, who is expecting to move full time into the business shortly. His managing director is Mr Jeff Scobie, an accountant.

There were problems with costly distribution in 1985 with a group of public houses bought around London but serviced from Tisbury. Mr Axford was then one of several investors who had rescued the company from receivership. After he became chairman, Wiltshire adopted a new strategy in 1987.

The workforce was reduced and the London pubs sold for just over £6 million, putting the operation back on an even keel after a £1 million operating loss in the year to early 1987.

It built up its main Stonehenge brand-name and, within the first year, had a dozen pubs within 40 miles.

Early last year Wiltshire set up a satellite operation in the West Midlands - a brewery and a small group of pubs in which County Inns has an equity interest. It also has a £1.25 million deal with Whitbread, one of the big brewers, to buy seven pubs near Salisbury. This will bring the West Country pub portfolio to about 20. This is why the USM flotation is aimed at raising about £2 million.

Mr Scobie believes the City expects further growth and says: "We are unlikely to disappoint on that score."



Confident of carrying it off: Jeff Scobie, managing director, says Wiltshire will not disappoint

DTI denies plans to halve size

By Our City Staff

A spokesman for the Department of Trade and Industry yesterday denied claims made by a former department press officer that the DTI, under the leadership of Mr Nicholas Ridley, was about to undergo an overhaul which would halve its size and responsibilities.

The spokesman said Mr Ridley's review of the department and the move toward "agencification" had been in the public domain for several months. He said speculation that the process heralds privatizing the department was unfounded. The claims appeared in *The Observer* under Miss Sarah Whitebloom's byline. Miss Whitebloom resigned last month from the DTI.

The spokesman said the executive agencies, which are being created in accordance with a Cabinet office report, *Implication of the Next Steps*, will still be accountable to Mr Ridley and questions about their activities raised in Parliament will be addressed to him. About 50 per cent of the 12,000-strong DTI will be demerged into executive agencies.

The first to be "agencified" was Companies House last year while Lord Young was secretary of the department. However, DTI sources said there were no plans to move responsibility for investigations under the Companies Act and insider trading inquiries to the SIB.

Headhunters seek new faces for Ferranti's top positions

By Our City Staff

More than one firm of headhunters is searching for replacements for top management positions at Ferranti International, the defunct defence and electronics group.

Ferranti confirmed that Spencer Stuart, the consultant, and others are still looking for a chairman and a chief executive to replace Sir Derek Alun-Jones, who at present wears both hats.

The spokesman said Mr Eugene Anderson, the former chief executive of Johnson Matthey, who resigned last month and so far has not emerged in another job, was "one possibility out of many."

Ferranti found a £215 mil-

lion hole in its assets last year after an arm of its US-based subsidiary, International Signal & Control, siphoned off more than £140 million over several years.

ISC and Ferranti merged in 1987 under Sir Derek's stewardship. Since the fraud was revealed, Sir Derek has faced several calls to step-down and has tabled his resignation to the board for it to use at any time.

"Top jobs at Ferranti may not have a long shelf life unless the company can negotiate a joint venture or line-up an equity partner soon. The company has no working capital and must be searching for

direction after its credibility was dealt such a crushing blow," one electronics industry analyst said.

There has been speculation Sir Derek will announce his departure at an extraordinary meeting on February 5.

The meeting has been called to approve a £187 million rights issue, which will safeguard the company in the short term, in addition to voting for at least two new board members.

The managing directors of two Ferranti divisions, Mr Ross Dunn, of Ferranti Defence, and Mr Bill Broekhuizen, of Ferranti Computers, are expected to be appointed.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.13	1.99	
Austria Sch	20.80	19.40	
Belgium Fr	67.75	67.85	
Canada C\$	2.015	1.905	
Denmark Kr	11.28	10.58	
France Ffr	6.56	6.56	
Germany DM	9.34	9.34	
Greenland Kr	2.55	2.75	
Italy Lit	204.50	204.50	
Hong Kong \$	13.45	12.55	
India Rupee	11.15	1.045	
Japan Yen	210	200	
Malaysia Ring	2.54	2.38	
Netherlands Gld	3.55	3.105	
Norway Kr	11.32	10.58	
Portugal Esc	204.50	204.50	
South Africa Rand	4.50	4.10	
Spain Ptas	163.25	177.25	
Sweden Kr	10.64	10.54	
Switzerland Fr	2.50	2.44	
Turkey Lira	4.55	37.55	
USA \$	1.725	1.625	
Yugoslavia Dnr	Ref	Ref	

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclay Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Bank Price Index: 778.0 (December)

David Hockney's front cover pulls in the orders

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Orders are flooding in from as far afield as California for copies of the Bradford telephone directory - and all because British Telecom commissioned the city's most famous son, David Hockney, to design the front cover. But locals have been less than complimentary about the latest Hockney masterpiece.

But Hockney appears to be having the last laugh: BT is being "snowed under" with orders for the directory arriving from his fans.

Orders from all over Britain (where the directory can be picked up by any telephone subscriber for £4 or £4.75 for a hardback version) have included one for 500 copies from a London man.

More than 220,000 directories have been distributed to Bradford and district subscribers and out of 294,000 printed libraries and others, including companies, around Britain account for much of the rest.

But BT has added an extra 5,000 copies to try to meet the Hockney demand. Hockney has ordered 50 copies

Coalite provides fuel for Anglo's purse

The sale of assets from Coalite's bran tub moved into full swing last week as its builders' merchants chain went to CRH, the Irish building materials group. The £50 million price was at the top of the £40 million-£50 million range expected by Coalite's new owner, Anglo United, when it bid for the company last May.

The programme of disposals began in December with the sale of Coalite's quarries for £54 million, £14 million above budget. Santa Nicholas Wills of BET donated a festive £31 million for Coalite's waste businesses over the Christmas break, compared with Anglo's estimate of £17 million before it started looking for buyers.

In all, Anglo has made £135 million on businesses it expected would raise £100 million. The signs are it will reach £200 million by March. A former oil depot in Wandsworth, and other properties may fetch £10 million. The pozzolanic cement and industrial furnace businesses stand to raise £15 million between them. The bulk of the balance will come from Coalite's oil interests, which are being put on the market in the next fortnight.

A surplus of, say, £50 million over the budgeted disposal proceeds would be a significant plus for a company capitalized at £160 million and would pave the way for Anglo's next move. But the uncertainty about the timing

of disposals and possible further acquisitions makes analysts reluctant to commit themselves to forecasts for the present year.

Anglo's broker, Charterhouse Tilney, has pencilled in profits of £35 million and earnings of 8.3p for 1992, putting the shares — very tentatively — on a prospective p/e ratio of seven at 59½p. However, the real case for Anglo is that the chairman, Mr David McErlain, has the right strategy for Coalite and the better-than-expected disposal proceeds show that he has not overpaid for the privilege of putting it into practice.

BZW trust

Being told that you can have your cake and eat sounds like an end-of-the-pier joke.

But when BZW says it, there is reason to sit up and consider the prospect — especially when there is the lure not only of a projected gross dividend yield of 10 per cent on one of its new investment babies, but of capital growth too.

BZW's institutional investment arm is today launching the £70 million BZW Convertible Investment Trust.

The fund will establish its capital base from public subscriptions for 50 million shares at 100p each, and will also place index loan stock to raise a further £20 million.

Today's launch catches the swelling tide of interest in con-



Right strategy: David McErlain, chairman of Anglo, which could make £50m more than expected in Coalite sale proceeds

vertibles which, by their very nature, offer a fixed yield usually somewhat higher than those ruling on underlying ordinary shares.

Capitalization of the convertible market now stands at more than £16 billion, made up of 330 securities.

The investment philosophy of the trust will be to invest predominantly in the fast-growing UK convertible sector, while reserving the power to invest up to 20 per cent in similar instruments abroad.

One of the trust's attractions is dividends will be paid four times a year. The first intended for about October 12.

Another attraction is that if the rate of dividend growth from traditional equities slows under the impact of inflation in the 1990s, then at least the income element from the trust should still be appealing. The capital structure of the trust with its local stock introduces an element of gearing which should enhance its income. BZW has more than £18

billion under management, and is no novice in its field. The issue is recommended.

British Land

The British Land share price is in a highly nervous state. Suggest that someone is actually going to bid for it, and watch it soar.

Charterhouse, Wasserstein Perella, Berish Berger, Kohlberg Kravis & Roberts, Mountleigh... the list of potential bidders and advisers

grows. As one is suggested and knocked down, another takes its place. The stock market is doing a fine job of convincing itself that a billion pound bid must be on its way.

There is a window of opportunity. John Ritblat, the chairman, might have difficulty justifying a convincing all-in defensive revaluation so soon after losing the dispute over valuations in what was going to be New British Land.

Mr Ritblat's problem is that the better he makes a defen-

sive revaluation look, the worse the light cast on last month's unpleasant dispute. The nearer any bid is to last month's dispute, the less room Mr Ritblat has to manoeuvre.

He does, however, have the security of size. British Land is in the property sector's top five. Its London investment portfolio makes up about two-thirds of its £1.4 billion property portfolio. Last year's rent roll of £70 million should increase significantly this year, easily covering conservative gearing of about 36 per cent.

Within the sector, only Land Securities could contemplate a £1 billion-plus bid with any comfort. Hence continuing talk of a consortium bid.

But at what price? At the end of the year to last March, Mr Ritblat reported a net asset value of 531p a share. Only a few months ago, many analysts had more than 600p pencilled in for this March. But, as evidence of sliding property yields mounts, forecasts are being cut towards the lower end of a 530p-580p range.

At 401p, British Land shares currently stand on a 24 per cent discount to assets — historically and, quite possibly, prospectively.

The days of paying full prospective asset value are over. So the 5-10 per cent discount that has succeeded recently suggests a bid of 475p-500p might succeed. An imaginative bidder could probably use material in Mr Ritblat's

redundant restructuring documents to justify an opening bid of 450p. But the bidder might just walk into a trap.

Having been thwarted last month, Mr Ritblat could be forgiven for walking away from the company. But how much more in character to seize the opportunity to relaunch a revised version of his restructuring plan, a move that neatly switches his role from defence to attack.

Wassall/Metal Closures

Wassall, the Hanson-backed mini-conglomerate, needs just 10 per cent more acceptances to win its battle for control of the pedestrian Metal Closures group. It deserves to get them.

The offer, an exit p/e of 29 on the cash and share package and 24 on the cash alternative, is generous for a company which has been shrinking in real terms for years. Metal Closures' attraction seems principally to be that it offers income funds a high yield, even though its forecast dividend is uncovered.

Aside from those specialists, other shareholders are likely to do better backing a young team that will make a better fist of growing the business than the present board. The offer closes on Wednesday. Shareholders should accept.

US NOTEBOOK

Dash for cash as the bond market takes a battering

From Maxwell Newton, New York

Appalling conditions in the New York government bond market have led to big losses, major portfolio liquidations and extreme unease. On Thursday, sentiment was seriously undermined by leaks to the *Wall Street Journal* by Mr Manuel Johnson and Mr Wayne Angell — powerful Federal Reserve governors — of notice of their refusal to sanction any further easing by the central bank.

Bond prices in New York have also suffered badly from the debacle in the Japanese bond market, where the 10-year Japanese government bond has fallen about six points since January 1, having already fallen about six points between August and January.

Of course, share prices have suffered, but by nothing like the amount that would have been expected to follow from the bad earnings results of leading corporations in the fourth quarter and the bond market collapse.

The relative resilience of shares has added still more gloom to bonds. In the past month, to January 19, the US Long Bond was down from 103 to below 98. Leading players liquidated entire positions.

There is a grave cash shortage in the bond market. Combined with the fact that positions have to be covered by "negative carry" — costing more to hold a position than earned on the coupon — anyone holding a bond position is in a continuing state of heightened nervousness and is bound to sell out at the merest

indication of weakness in prices.

The real US economy remains stagnant. Manufacturing production rose only 0.5 per cent between April and December last year. Layoffs is the keyword of the times. Retailing is going nowhere. Car production cuts are, of course, widespread.

"Great names" in American corporate life are suffering and zero growth for the fourth quarter of 1989 and probably for the first quarter of this year is written into the markets.

Yet none of this has severely affected shares. Nor has it badly affected commodities — one reason for the refusal of the Fed to continue easing its stance.

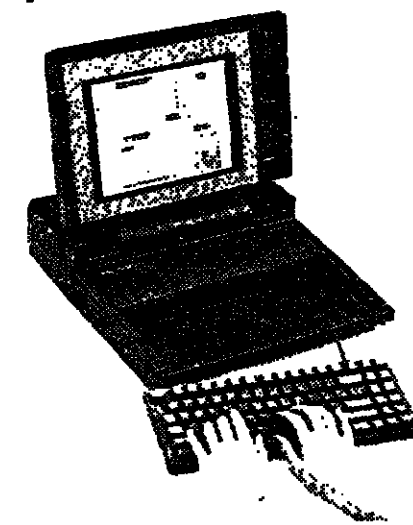
This has added to the frisson of fear that makes bond traders' stomachs turn over and which is producing swinging staff cuts on Wall Street.

The big corporations that bought Wall Street firms must rue the day. These have been disastrous investments. Wall Street is in a depression.

Americans are rushing into cash. Over the past year, the outstanding sums invested in money market mutual funds have risen by 29 per cent to \$70 billion (£42.5 billion).

Money market deposit accounts at all banks and thrifts fell \$16 billion over the same period.

As the thrift industry disintegrates and leading banks (particularly in the Northeast) report massive losses on property loans, the fear is increasing with the wealthy spreading their cash into dozens of individual banks.



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* STN = Super-Twisted Nematic; CFL = Cold Cathode Fluorescent Lamp



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Hoyle seeks early US ruling in Farmers fight

From Philip Robinson, Los Angeles

Sir James Goldsmith will open a fresh battle in California tomorrow as part of his five-month fight to seek American regulators' approval to control Farmers group, the insurance company owned by BAT Industries and California's second largest insurer.

His Hoyle Investments and Axa Midi Assurances, France's third largest insurance group, want an early decision from the state of California - which Axa says accounts for 40 per cent of all Farmers' business - on whether insurance regulators will approve them as new owners of Farmers.

In hearings tomorrow, both companies will urge California officials to bring forward

their consideration from March 19 to February 13.

According to California insurance officials, BAT has lodged stiff objections against moving the hearing date.

Advisers to Axa say California's ownership decision influenced other states during the nine-month battle when Farmers was fighting off the \$5.2 billion (£3.1 billion) bid from BAT in 1988.

Axa and Hoyle need approval from eight other insurance regulators if a new takeover bid by Sir James for BAT is to get off the ground and Hoyle is to sell Farmers to Axa for \$4.5 billion. As part of the deal, Axa will invest nearly \$1 billion in Hoyle.

Those close to Axa say it is

confident of producing convincing arguments that it is a fitting owner for Farmers.

Dates for hearings by the seven remaining American states now stretch into April and four have yet to fix dates.

Battle recommences today for approval from the state of Illinois with evidence expected from M Claude Bédar, Axa's chairman and chief executive.

Last week, BAT renewed its attack on Axa criticizing what it called the debt-funded deal as a potential disaster.

Mr Jeffrey Beyer, a vice-president of Farmers, said: "Axa Midi's plan to take 75 per cent of Farmers' earnings as dividends to meet Axa's heavy debt obligations - more

than twice the average for US insurance companies and over double that paid by Farmers under current arrangements - would deprive Farmers of funds targeted to reinvestment and building of the company's long-term strength."

He added: "Axa's US track record is questionable. It only owns a very small reinsurance company and has no US experience in Farmers' main lines of property and casualty insurance."

Axa says BAT's assertion that it takes a lower dividend from Farmers takes no account of a near \$1 billion balloon debt repayment due to BAT towards the end of the nineties on money borrowed to finance its bid for Farmers.

Wakeham hears plan to save energy

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

Mr John Wakeham, Energy Secretary, has been advised of minor changes to the proposed supply licences in privatization which could promote energy efficiency without sacrificing area electricity board profits.

Mr Wakeham had asked for a submission from Friends of the Earth, which has calculated the small adjustments to the licences could yield substantial savings.

The Energy Department, the area boards and PowerGen, the smaller of the two generators to be created from the Central Electricity Generating Board, have expressed broad approval. But the tight timetable for the privatization programme could make the changes impossible.

Mr Wakeham is expected to announce the final shape of the supply licences, which will control transactions between the generating and distribution companies and provide the basis for regulating profits, next month.

The licences will also pass the statutory obligation to keep the lights on from the generators to the distributors, and it is here that the Friends of the Earth has suggested possible savings.

It proposes that when a board contracts to supply a fixed amount of power, it could do this by agreeing a generating contract or suggesting the use of energy-saving equipment. FoE argues the area boards could meet customer demand by placing supply contracts with generators or with specialist energy management companies.

The present draft licences prevent area boards from passing on to customers the costs of any energy-saving contracts. This, says FoE, provides no encouragement for them to promote energy conservation more actively.

ECONOMIC VIEW EC meets the challenge of financial glasnost

Last week the main Communist countries excluding China finally re-entered the western financial community. At an historic meeting in Paris, high-level representatives from the Soviet Union and all the east European countries except Albania met their western counterparts to discuss financial co-operation and the development challenges posed by perestroika.

Whether the comrades will think it was worthwhile, once they have been properly exposed to IMF-style intrigue and the tedious position-taking which passes for debate in the World Bank, remains to be seen. But with the inter-dependence of national economies increasing all the time, it must be desirable to have the Eastern bloc countries in the fold rather than outside. Until now they have stood stiffly apart from the international financial dialogue established since 1945 by the Bretton Woods institutions. The occasion for this financial détente was a meeting to discuss the establishment of the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Membership of the IMF and World Bank themselves, though it may come later, is not yet on the agenda.

Altogether, 34 countries were represented at this first meeting of East and West at the financial high table, including the 12 EC members plus Cyprus and Malta, the other members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, including the US and Japan, and the Soviet Union, with the seven east European countries.

The eastern bloc representatives were, for the most part, high-level ministers and officials including, for instance, the chairman of the Soviet Union's State Bank, Victor Geraschenko; the Czech finance minister, Vaclav Klaus; and the president of the National Bank of Hungary, Ferenc Bartha.

In their presentations of their countries' economic policies and prospects, much was heard of democratization, the need to foster competition, the phasing out of state subsidies, the social impact of free markets, the welcome awaiting foreign investment and the importance of

putting in place proper monetary controls and allowing interest rates to rise to appropriate levels.

Against this graphic background of the challenges posed by converting command economies into market economies, the shape of the new institution has begun to emerge. Originally a French initiative, to which all the EC leaders signed up at the Strasbourg summit last month, the EBRD will have a membership divided between the eastern bloc countries and the developed countries of the West. Although its name echoes the formal title of the World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development), the EC's development bank will, unlike the World Bank, focus exclusively on helping the private sector.

The precise size of the bank has yet to be decided, but the range of estimates centres on Ecu 10 billion (about £7.3 billion). This represents the total eventual capital, of which only a proportion will be paid in by shareholder countries, the gap being covered by commercial borrowing. Shareholders will probably include all the participants at last week's meeting, EC countries having a little over half. Loans will be linked to specific private sector projects such as joint ventures or privatizations.

There will be no macro-economic conditionality for loans on the IMF pattern, but there may be general conditions written into the bank's constitution, such as a commitment to free markets and possibly democracy. The aim is to get the institution established as soon as possible, with the first loans perhaps being made by the end of the year.

The location of the new institution has also not been decided. Czechoslovakia's Mr Klaus had one good suggestion. Since the Second World War, one of Prague's premier buildings has housed a museum of Marxist-Leninism: as that clearly has no future, said Mr Klaus, it would be a perfect place for the bank. However, the new institution seems more likely to end up within the EC. On that basis, London, so far without an important EC institution, should have a good claim.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Business failures rise 9.7%

High interest rates have been blamed for the first rise in business failures in England and Wales for five years.

Failures jumped 9.7 per cent to 18,163 in 1989, according to Dun & Bradstreet, the business information company. The once-booming Eastern region of England led the way with a 30.7 per cent increase to 703, while the North-west was the only area to see a fall - down 10.8 per cent to 2,218.

An overwhelming 44.8 per cent of the total was in London and the South-east.

Mr Keith Williams, the managing director of Dun & Bradstreet UK, said: "The Government's tough stance on interest rates has taken a toll on the business community, resulting in the first rise in business failures since 1984."

Eyes on Swan

Carlton and United Breweries, which is owned by Elders IXL, has set its sights on buying the Swan brewery in Western Australia from Mr Alan Bond's Bond Brewing Holdings, despite the risk of intervention by the Trade Practices Commission.

Spicers deal

Spicers, the office supplies division of Reedpack, has completed its first acquisition on the Continent. No price was put on the deal to buy Papeterie de l'Ouest, one of France's leading regional office products wholesalers.

Rift healed

A fight for the control of Banco Bilbao Vizcaya of Spain ended at the weekend when its hitherto deeply-split board unanimously elected a new chairman and began other reforms.

Ernst jobs go

Ernst & Young's management consultancy have made 39 staff redundant, including seven partners, as part of a rejigging of its corporate strategy.

Mine reopens

Ok Tedi Mining's copper and gold mine in western Papua New Guinea has reopened after a blockade of the mine's access road was lifted.

New face at Spitting Image



Pulling the strings: Sargent, chairman, will take over the day-to-day running of the company

Spitting Image, the Central TV satirical show that aims to upset most of the Establishment, has a new chairman (Martin Waller writes).

But, hardly in keeping with its ideas of accountability and open government, nobody is saying just how much Mr William Sargent, who runs The Frame Store, a graphics house providing special effects for TV, is paying for his estimated 60 per cent of Spitting Image Productions.

He is buying out Mr John Lloyd, the man behind Rowan Atkinson's *Blackadder* series; Mr John Blair, who runs his

own TV production company; and Mr Martin Lambie-Nairn, a graphics expert. The three were founders with Mr Peter Fluck and Mr Roger Law, the model-makers behind the celebrated latex puppets, but are no longer active in the company. The rest of the shares will be divided between Mr Fluck and Mr Law.

Mr Sargent plans to expand the company's output and has already sold a new series, a £3 million comedy featuring animal puppets, to the ITV network for broadcast next January. He is also negotiating with Disney to provide

Simulacra (computer-guided) puppets as guides at its US theme parks. The engineering division which makes these puppets could eventually see a stock market listing.

Mr Sargent will take over the day-to-day running of the company to allow Mr Fluck and Mr Law - "Luck" and "Flaw" - to indulge their creative whims.

Mr Sargent admits some nervousness. "When they first approached me, and I got my first look at Spitting Image, I had the distinct impression that the lunatics had taken over the asylum."

Lovell loses battle for Higgs

By Angela Mackay

YJ Lovell, the construction company, is deciding what to do with its 10 per cent stake in the rival group Higgs and Hill after its £162 million bid failed at the weekend.

By the time the bid lapsed on Saturday, Lovell could speak for only 34.82 per cent of its target.

Sir Brian Hill, chairman of Higgs and Hill, said yesterday the hostile bid had "cost of lot of money" to defend but had put the spotlight on the

company's assets and prospects. "Our businesses in France, Spain and Holland are strong and point to continued growth in the 1990s, along with our UK construction division," he added.

Originally, Lovell bid £139 million for Higgs and Hill and was boosted by the support of Mr John Adams, Higgs and Hill's deputy chairman, who along with some associates pledged about 13 per cent of

the company's stock. However, City analysts generally concluded that even the revised bid undervalued the company and were reluctant to accept Lovell's assessment of the bid's commercial logic.

Lovell's offer document presents the group as highly-leveraged and it is unlikely it will be willing or able to hold on to the stake indefinitely.

Higgs and Hill's shares ended 5p lower on Friday at 408p.

Birch bounces back

Philip Birch, the former chairman and chief executive of the Halfords-to-Payless DIY group Ward White - until its hostile takeover by Boots in August last year - today begins his new job as the non-executive chairman of BZW Convertibles Trust, the first investment trust to specialise exclusively in convertible stocks. A part-time post, it is Birch's second City position within a month. He has also joined the six-man panel which will, on behalf of the National Association of Pension Funds, investigate the way in which such funds measure their own performance. "There appears to be a degree of uncertainty as to whether the methods of measuring performance are accurate or fair," says Birch, aged 57, who started his career as a merchant seaman and then a librarian in his native Liverpool. Birch, still patiently waiting for Boots to settle his compensation claim for breach of contract - the matter is in the hands of lawyers, a notoriously slow and cost-intensive course of action - is nevertheless planning a more full-time comeback elsewhere. "I'm trying to get my hands on a publicly-quoted group," he says. "And I hope it will happen within the course of the next three months." But it might not, he adds, be in retailing. "I'm not adverse to going into a service company," he hints, admitting that he already has one or two ideas up his sleeve.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Could she be Queenie?

Ewan Gilmore, a banker with Charterhouse, the merchant bank which put together the £70 million rescue package for Lowndes Queensway, is getting used to sleepless nights. Along with the rest of the team on the Lowndes deal he had only one or two hours sleep a night for most of last week. Unlike most of the team, however, it is unlikely he will catch up on his lost hours in dream-

land for on Thursday night his wife gave birth to their first daughter. At 7pm on Friday, Gilmore finally stopped wrestling with the issue of zero-coupon convertible loan notes and started applying his mind to where he had left his three sons and a name for the new baby. Colleagues are suggesting that to celebrate the success of the deal, she should be called Queenie.

Green plates

Some distinctive number plates will have been spotted by sharp-eyed passengers on buses operating in London Buses' south-eastern subsid-



"Not a fall - just a correction."

Diamond McCrystal

Amanda Evans, once a gills saleswoman for Warburg Securities, then a trainee fund manager with Mercury Asset Management, and now a City reporter on the *Evening Standard*, has become engaged to a fellow member of the Fourth Estate - *Today* journalist (and former *Sun* City editor) Damien McCrystal, aged 28.

McCrystal, who proposed on Thursday and immediately produced a diamond ring, now wants to choose a second, larger ring, with 24-year-old Amanda's help. "He just wanted to have something to pop on to my finger that night," she enthuses. Although he has known her for five months, he only met her parents after he had proposed. Her father, Mark Evans, as head of corporate finance at Laing & Cruckshank, and president of Kensington Conservative Association, is clearly an establishment figure.

"But he didn't seem to object to me on the grounds that I had campaigned for the removal of Sir Nicholas Goodison," says McCrystal, recalling his highly vocal campaign during his tenure at the *Sun* to oust Goodison as Stock Exchange chairman.

© Daniel Jeffries, the former Cazenove and BBC man who was laid off by Citicorp Springhouse Vickers after only 10 days - he was recruited as its UK equity strategist - received £35,000 to send him on his way, less than half the sum he had privately hoped for. But at £3,500 a day, it cannot be bad.

Carol Leonard

ADVERTISEMENT
ACCEPTANCE FORMS MUST BE LODGED AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND, NEW ISSUES, NEW CHANGE, LONDON, EC4M 9AA NOT LATER THAN 12.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY 1990, OR AT ANY OF THE BRANCHES OR AGENCIES OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND NOT LATER THAN 3.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY 1990.

OFFER OF CONVERSION TO HOLDERS OF
92 per cent CONVERSION STOCK, 2001
TO CONVERT INTO 10 per cent TREASURY STOCK, 2001

Application will be made to the Council of The International Stock Exchange for 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 issued as a result of this conversion to be admitted to the Official List.

1. THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND are authorised to invite holders of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 to convert all or part of their holdings into 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 as on 10th February 1990 at the rate of £98.55 nominal of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 per £100 nominal of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001.

2. Holders who do not wish to convert any part of their holding should do nothing.

3. Registered holders of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 at the close of business on 8th January 1990 who exercise the option to convert as on 10th February 1990 will receive the interest payment due on 10th February 1990. Interest at the rate of £5.3973 of £100 nominal of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 will be paid as on 26th August 1990 in respect of Stock issued as a result of the conversion.

4. Conversion will be into registered stock of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 which, subject to the provisions contained in this notice, will rank equally in all respects with Stock already issued and will be subject to the provisions of the prospectus dated 11th October 1985. Holdings of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 in respect of which the conversion option is exercised will be surrendered free from all liens, charges and encumbrances and with all the rights now or hereafter attaching to them except the right to receive the interest payment due on 10th February 1990.

Method of acceptance
5. Copies of this notice and acceptance forms for completion are being sent by post to holders of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001. In the case of joint accounts, the forms are being sent to the first of the holders whose registered address is in the United Kingdom (or, if none has such an address, to the first named holder). Holders who wish to convert all or part of their holdings should complete the acceptance form. Stock resulting from this conversion may be added to existing holdings of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001.

6. Completed acceptance forms with stock certificates must be lodged at the Bank of England, New Issues, New Change, London, EC4M 9AA not later than 12.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY 1990, or at any of the Branches or Agencies of the Bank of England not later than 3.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY 1990. The Bank of England will acknowledge receipt of acceptance forms.

7. In the case of stockholders who are members of the Central Gills Office (CGO) Service, completed acceptance forms must be lodged at the Bank of England, Central Gills Office, 1 Bank Buildings, Princes Street, London, EC2R 8EU not later than 12.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY 1990.

8. If a holder wishes to convert but cannot obtain an essential signature or document by 7th February 1990, the acceptance form, completed so far as possible, should be lodged in accordance with paragraphs 6 or 7 above, accompanied by a letter from a bank, solicitor or other professional adviser giving the reason for the acceptance being incomplete and undertaking to put it in order as soon as possible; it may then be possible to give effect to the acceptance. If there is insufficient time for the acceptance form to be lodged before the close of the offer, the holder may notify acceptance by facsimile (fax numbers 01-601-3288 or 01-601-5432) quoting brief particulars to identify the account and specifying the amount of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 to be converted; this should be followed without delay by a completed acceptance form and the certificates.

Arrangements for conversion
9. Up to and including 9th February 1990 holdings in respect of which the conversion option has been exercised will be described on the register as 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 "Assented"; and from 12th February 1990 until 24th July 1990 new holdings of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 issued on conversion will be described on the register as 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 "A". Certificates for the new holdings of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 "A" will be issued as soon as possible after 12th February 1990.

10. Up to and including 7th February 1990, CGO account balances in respect of which the conversion option has been exercised will be described as 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 "Assented"; and from 8th February 1990 until 20th July 1990 balances in respect of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 issued on conversion will be described as 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 "A".

11. Transfers of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 for which stock transfer forms are lodged for registration up to 12.30 p.m. on 7th February 1990 will carry the option to convert into 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 as on 10th February 1990. Stock transfer forms will be accepted for certification in respect of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 until normal deadlines for certification on 7th February 1990 but they will not carry the option to convert unless they are relogged for registration by 12.30 p.m. that day.

12. Stock transfer forms will be accepted for certification in respect of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 "Assented" until normal deadlines for certification on 7th February 1990 but they must be relogged by the normal deadlines on that day if registration in the same form is desired. Stock transfer forms in respect of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 "Assented" lodged for certification on 8th and 9th February 1990 will be certified in that form; on the lodging of such transfers for registration the transferees will be registered as holders of the appropriate amounts of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 "A". Transfers of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 "Assented" lodged for registration or certification should be accompanied by the Bank of England's acknowledgement of the receipt of the acceptance form or, if the acknowledgement has been lodged with an earlier transfer of the Stock, by the receipt issued for that transfer.

13. The interest due on 26th August 1990 will be paid separately on holdings of the existing 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 and on holdings of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 "A" at the close of business on 24th July 1990; consequently, interest mandates authorities for income tax exemption and other notifications recorded in respect of existing holdings of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 will not be applied to the payment of interest due on 26th August 1990 on holdings of "A" stock.

14. Where the conversion option has been exercised, any instructions for the payment of interest registered in respect of a holding of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 will be applied to the new holding of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 "A". Similarly, where instructions have been given by the Inland Revenue authorities for interest on the holding of 92 per cent Conversion Stock, 2001 to be paid without deduction of income tax, the instructions will be applied to the new holding of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 "A".

15. Transfers of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 "A" may be lodged at the Bank of England for registration in that form up to 20th July 1990. After that date, for purposes of certification, the "A" stock will not be distinguished from the existing 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001. From the opening of business on 26th July 1990, the "A" stock will be amalgamated on the register with 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001. CGO account balances will have been amalgamated from the opening of business on 23rd July 1990.

16. Her Majesty's Treasury have directed that Section 471 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (which relates to the treatment for taxation purposes of financial concerns whose business consists wholly or partly in dealing in securities) shall apply to exchanges of securities arising from this offer.

Particulars of the issue of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001

17. The prospectus for 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 dated 11th October 1985 included the following provisions:-

(i) The Stock is an investment falling within Part II of the First Schedule to the Trustee Investments Act 1961. The principal of interest on the Stock is a charge on the National Loans Fund, with recourse to the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom.

(ii) The Stock will be repaid at par on 26th February 2001.

(iii) Interest is payable half-yearly on 26th February and 26th August. Income tax is deducted from payments of more than £5 per annum. Interest warrants are transmitted by post.

(iv) The Stock is registered at the Bank of England or at the Bank of Ireland, Belfast, and is transferable, in multiples of one penny, by instrument in writing in accordance with the Stock Transfer Act 1983. Transfers are free of stamp duty.

Stock registered at the Bank of England held for the account of members of the CGO Service is also transferable, in multiples of one penny, by exempt transfer in accordance with the Stock Transfer Act 1982 and the relevant secondary legislation.

18. Additional copies of this notice, the particulars of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 and forms for the acceptance of the conversion offer may be obtained at the New Issues Counter, Bank of England, New Change, London, EC4M 9AA; at the Central Gills Office, Bank of England, 1 Bank Buildings, Princes Street, London, EC2R 8EU; or at any of the Branches or Agencies of the Bank of England; at the Bank of Ireland, Moyné Buildings, 1st Floor, 20 Colander Street, Belfast, BT1 5BN; or at any office of The International Stock Exchange in the United Kingdom.

19. Members of the Central Gills Office Service may obtain further guidance about the arrangements set out above in relation to their accounts by contacting the Central Gills Office, Bank of England.

STOCKHOLDERS UNCERTAIN AS TO THE BEST COURSE TO FOLLOW SHOULD CONSULT THEIR STOCKBROKER, BANK MANAGER, SOLICITOR, ACCOUNTANT OR OTHER PROFESSIONAL ADVISER.

Government Statement

Attention is drawn to the statement issued by Her Majesty's Treasury on 29th May 1985 which explained that, in the interest of the orderly conduct of fiscal policy, neither Her Majesty's Government nor the Bank of England or their respective servants or agents undertake to disclose tax changes decided on but not yet announced, even where they may specifically affect the terms on which, or the conditions under which, the further amount of 10 per cent Treasury Stock, 2001 is issued or sold by or on behalf of the Government or the Bank; that no responsibility can therefore be accepted for any omission to make such disclosure; and that such omission shall neither render any transaction liable to be set aside nor give rise to any claim for compensation.

BANK OF ENGLAND

LONDON

19th January 1990

y wine trade

and the annual company
conference were sales
of 100,000 units.

With 1980 sales of
1,000,000 units and a
reported profit of \$10
million, the company's
shareholders are likely
to be pleased with the
company's performance.

The company's sales
of 1,000,000 units in 1980
were a significant
increase over the 100,000
units sold in 1979.

The company's sales
of 1,000,000 units in 1980
were a significant
increase over the 100,000
units sold in 1979.

(Incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Act 1985. Registered No. 2409732)

by

of

at 100p per share

payable in full on application

SHARE CAPITAL

in Ordinary Shares of 10p each

**Issued and to be
issued fully paid
£5,050,000**

INDEBTEDNESS

Save as referred to above, as at the date of this document, the Company has no loan capital (including term loans) outstanding, or created but unissued, or any outstanding mortgages, charges, debentures or other borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowings, including bank overdrafts, liabilities under acceptances or acceptance credits, finance leases, hire purchase commitments, guarantees or other material contingent liabilities.

The application list for the Ordinary Shares now being offered for subscription will open at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 30th January, 1990 and may be closed at any time thereafter. The procedure for application and an application form are set out at the end of this document. No Equities Index Unsecured Loan Stock 1996-2002 is available for subscription pursuant to the Offer.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE

Latest time and date for receipt of applications	10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 30th January, 1990
Basis of allocation to be announced by	10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 31st January, 1990
Renounceable letters of allotment to be despatched on	Wednesday, 7th February, 1990
Dealings in the Ordinary Shares to commence at	9.00 a.m. on Thursday, 8th February, 1990
Latest time and date for splitting renounceable letters of allotment	3.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 7th March, 1990
Latest time and date for registration of renunciation	3.00 p.m. on Friday, 9th March, 1990
Despatch of Ordinary Share certificates	Friday, 6th April, 1990

SUMMARY

- BZW Convertible Investment Trust PLC is a new investment trust which will invest predominantly in the UK convertible market.
- The dramatic expansion of the UK convertible market in terms of the size and number of new issues over recent years, has led the Directors to believe that there is an opportunity to form a portfolio combining a high and secure initial income with the prospect of capital growth and a rising income over time.
- The projected gross dividend yield will be approximately 10 per cent.* at the Offer Price of 100p. This yield and the prospect of capital growth are, in the opinion of the Directors, the key attractions of the Company.
- The capital structure has been enhanced by the introduction of Index Loan Stock.
- BZW Investment Management will be the investment manager. With £18 billion under management, it is one of the largest and most respected companies in the UK investment management sector.

OFFER STATISTICS

Number of Ordinary Shares in issue following the Offer	50,500,000
Offer Price per Ordinary Share	100p
Estimated net asset value per Ordinary Share	96.1p
Approximate projected gross dividend yield at the Offer Price*	10%

*for the 12 months ending 31st January, 1991.

INVESTMENT TRUST STATUS

DIVIDEND POLICY AND ACCOUNTS

DEFINITIONS

"Company"	BZW Convertible Investment Trust PLC
"Directors" or "Board"	Directors of the Company
"BZW Investment Management"	Barclays de Zoete Wedd Investment Management Limited
"BZW"	Barclays de Zoete Wedd Limited
"Application Form"	application form in respect of the Offer attached hereto
"TMRO"	Investment Management Regulatory Organisation Limited
"Index"	FT-Actuaries All-Share Index
"Index Loan Stock"	Equities Index Unsecured Loan Stock 1996-2002 of the Company as more fully described in Part IV of this document
"Offer"	offer for subscription of Ordinary Shares contained in this document
"Offer Price"	100p per Ordinary Share
"Ordinary Shares"	ordinary shares of 10p each in the Company
"Ordinary Shareholders"	holders of Ordinary Shares
"Personal Equity Plan"	a plan as defined in the Personal Equity Plan Regulations 1989
"Placing"	placing of £20 million of Index Loan Stock simultaneously with the Offer
"Stockholders"	holders of the Index Loan Stock
"The Stock Exchange"	The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited

DIRECTORS, MANAGER AND ADVISERS

Philip Richard Withers Green
all of Ebbgate House, 2 Swan Lane, London EC4R 3TS

Registered Office
Ebbgate House
2 Swan Lane
London EC4R 3TS

Secretary
Ivory & Sime plc
One Charlotte Square
Edinburgh EH2 4DZ

Investment Manager
Barclays de Zoete Wadd Investment Management Limited
Seal House
1 Swan Lane
London EC4R 3UD

Financial Adviser and Sponsor
Barclays de Zoete Wedd Limited
Ebbgate House
2 Swan Lane
London EC4R 3TS

Stockbrokers
de Zoete & Bevan Limited
Ebbgate House
2 Swan Lane
London EC4R 3TS

Solicitors to the Company
Dickson Minto W.S.
11 Walker Street
Edinburgh EH3 7NE

Solicitors to the Issue
Clifford Chance
Royex House
Aldermanbury Square
London EC2V 7LD

Reporting Accountants & Auditors
Arthur Andersen & Co.
Chartered Accountants
1 Surrey Street
London WC2R 2PS

Registrars and Transfer Agents
Barclays Bank PLC
Registration and New Issues
PO Box 34
Octagon House
Gadbrook Park
Northwich
Cheshire CW9 7RD

DIRECTORS

Philip Birch, aged 57, is Chairman and Managing Director of Ward White Group. He became Managing Director of John White Footwear in 1969 prior to the creation of Ward White Group in 1972. He was a director of Cowan de Groot for three years to October 1987.

David Achand, aged 60, is Chairman of BZW Investment Management, a position he previously held at Barclays Investment Management. Following a successful career in industry, where he was Finance Director and subsequently Chief Executive at W. H. Smith & Son, he joined the Financial Services Division of Barclays Bank. He was chairman of Barclays Unicorn Group and currently holds other directorships within the Barclays Group. He is also Chairman of Electric and General Investment Company and a Director of Kleinwort Overseas Investment Trust.

Barry Southcott, aged 39, is Managing Director of the Marketable Securities Division of CIN Management, the investment manager for the British Coal Pension Funds. He joined CIN in 1975 and prior to that was an investment analyst with Phillips & Drew. He is also a Director of British Investment Trust and Edinburgh Fund Managers.

Dick Withers Green, aged 47, has overall responsibility for BZW Investment Management's day to day investment operations. In 1970 he became a partner of de Zoete & Bevan operating within the pension fund department. For the ten years prior to the formation, in 1986 of BZW Investment Management, he was responsible for the co-ordination of the day to day investment policy.

PART I

INTRODUCTION

BZW Convertible Investment Trust PLC is a new investment trust which will invest predominantly in the UK convertible market. The Company will be wound up in 1996 unless the shareholders elect to extend its life. The Directors aim to achieve a balance of a high level of initial income, increasing over time, and capital growth by investing in companies with growth potential. The projected initial gross dividend yield is approximately 10 per cent. per annum at the Offer Price.

Simultaneously with the issue of Ordinary Shares, the Company is issuing £20 million of Index Loan Stock. The Directors believe that this is a particularly attractive form of gearing which will enhance the income return to Ordinary Shareholders. This is explained in greater detail in the section headed "Capital Structure" below.

INVESTMENT MANAGER

The Company will be managed by BZW Investment Management, which is a member of IMRO. BZW Investment Management is the investment management company operating within the BZW Group, the investment banking arm of Barclays PLC.

The BZW Group came into being in 1986, from the union of stockbrokers de Zoete & Bevan and stockjobbers Wedd Duriecher Mordaunt & Co. with Barclays Merchant Bank Limited and Barclays Investment Management Limited. At this time Barclays Investment Management Limited was merged with de Zoete & Bevan's pension fund management department, combining over £8 billion funds under management with 30 years' investment experience, to form BZW Investment Management. Through the development of sophisticated software, BZW Investment Management has become one of the UK leaders in the application of quantitative investment techniques. These will be used to aid the management of risk within the Company's portfolio. The success of the merger has been borne out by the dramatic growth in funds under management to £18 billion, including over £3.5 billion of unit trusts, thus making BZW Investment Management one of the largest and most respected companies in the UK investment management sector.

INVESTMENT BACKGROUND

Convertible preference shares and loan stocks are derivatives of fixed interest securities and equity shares and combine some of the features of each.

Convertible securities offer a fixed yield which is often considerably higher than the yield on the underlying ordinary shares. They normally give an investor the right to convert into ordinary shares at a fixed price over a number of years. The effect of this is that in general if the price of the ordinary share rises, the price of the convertible security also increases thereby enabling holders of such securities to participate in the growth of the company.

In addition, most convertible securities offer a fixed date or spread of dates on which they must be repaid at a fixed price if they have not previously been converted. This together with the high yields available from convertible securities generally ensures that they maintain their value better than ordinary shares if the ordinary share price declines.

It is possible, by combining a warrant with a fixed interest security, to construct a synthetic convertible security whereby the proceeds of redemption or sale of the fixed interest security could be applied to exercise the warrant. Such a combination has the characteristics of a convertible security and will broaden the investment opportunities available to the Company.

The capitalisation of UK sterling convertible securities in the domestic and eurobond markets at 29th December, 1989 was approximately £16 billion and comprised around 330 securities. These markets have expanded considerably in recent years with stocks issued during 1988 and 1989 valued at a total of approximately £7 billion.

New Issues of UK Sterling Convertible Securities

No.	Capitalisation*
£m	
1985	34
1986	51
1987	72
1988	93
1989	49
	2,823

Source: Barclays de Zoete Wedd Securities Limited

*at their respective issue prices.

The Directors believe that the recent expansion of the UK convertible market will continue into the future and that there is an opportunity to form a well balanced portfolio combining high and secure initial income, which is only slightly less than that obtainable on long dated British Government Securities, with the prospect of capital growth and a rising income over time.

INVESTMENT POLICY

The investment policy of the Company will be to invest in a quality portfolio predominantly comprising sterling-denominated convertible preference shares, loan stocks and eurobonds of United Kingdom companies whose ordinary shares are listed on The Stock Exchange. It is the Directors' intention that, should opportunities arise, up to 20 per cent. of the Company's portfolio might be invested in similar instruments of an international nature.

The Company may invest in equities and in synthetic convertible securities, and engage in transactions in options, futures and other derivatives, where appropriate.

The objectives of the Company will be to:

- Achieve a high level of income for Ordinary Shareholders, increasing over time
- Provide capital growth

Since the portfolio will initially consist almost entirely of convertible securities with a fixed income, the dividend on the Ordinary Shares is unlikely to increase in the early years of the Company. Dividends should, however, grow as the Company's holdings of convertible securities are either converted into ordinary shares or are re-invested into higher yielding convertible securities.

There are restrictions on the investment policy in accordance with the requirements of The Stock Exchange as set out in paragraph 8 of Part V of this document.

PERSONAL EQUITY PLANS

Private investors are able to renounce Ordinary Shares acquired pursuant to the Offer into a Personal Equity Plan. Applications for Ordinary Shares to be transferred into a Personal Equity Plan must be in the name of the beneficial owner and such Ordinary Shares acquired pursuant to the Offer must be renounced into a Personal Equity Plan within a period of 30 days after the basis of allocation is announced, which is expected to occur on 31st January, 1990.

The value of Ordinary Shares applied for pursuant to the Offer which may be transferred into a Personal Equity Plan by a private investor within the permitted timescale will depend upon individual circumstances but in no case will exceed £2,400. In the case of a married couple, each spouse is treated separately, so that a couple can invest between them a maximum of £4,800 in Personal Equity Plans.

Private investors intending to renounce Ordinary Shares into a Personal Equity Plan should obtain advice from their personal financial advisers.

DURATION OF THE COMPANY

The Articles of Association provide that the Directors are obliged to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company to be held on 30th July, 1996 at which an ordinary resolution will be proposed providing for the Company to be wound up ("liquidation resolution"). Shareholders are obliged to vote in favour of such a liquidation resolution.

The Directors may be released from their obligation to propose a liquidation resolution by an ordinary resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting in respect of the financial period ending 31st July, 1995, at which shareholders may vote as they wish. If the Company is not wound up in 1996, the Directors are obliged to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting in 1998 and in each successive second year thereafter and thereat to propose a liquidation resolution unless released from their obligation at the preceding Annual General Meeting.

If the Directors are not released from their obligation to propose a liquidation resolution, it is the Directors' intention that measures would be considered to provide shareholders with the opportunity to transfer their investment into an alternative investment vehicle.

CAPITAL STRUCTURE

Simultaneously with the issue of the Ordinary Shares, BZW will place on behalf of the Company £20 million of Index Loan Stock. Interest on the Index Loan Stock will be paid quarterly and will be calculated by reference to the gross dividend yield on the FT-Actuaries All-Share Index, which at 5th January, 1990 was 4.2 per cent. On redemption, holders of the Index Loan Stock will receive a premium or be subject to a discount to the issue price which will reflect the movement of the Index over the life of the Index Loan Stock.

Therefore, by way of example, if at redemption the Index had increased by 50 per cent. from the date of issue, the Company would be required to pay to the Stockholders £30 million, a premium of £10 million over the issue price. Conversely if at redemption the Index had fallen by 50 per cent. from the date of issue, the Company would be required to pay to the Stockholders £10 million, a discount of £10 million to the issue price.

The Directors believe that the Index Loan Stock represents an attractive form of gearing for the Company since the expected yield on the Company's investments should exceed the yield on the Index, without the risk to shareholders' funds being significantly increased. The Directors believe that the increase in liability in respect of the Index Loan Stock which would result from an increase in the Index should be protected by the increase in value of the portfolio.

The Company may hedge the exposure to the Index Loan Stock by the use of equities or derivatives if it is deemed appropriate.

On the basis of a notional portfolio of convertible securities as at the close of business on 5th January, 1990 being the latest practicable date before the printing of this document the effect of the Index Loan Stock is to increase the projected gross earnings yield at the Offer Price from 8.2 per cent. to 10.0 per cent. as illustrated in the table below. The table is a pro forma and is for illustrative purposes only.

Pro Forma Revenue Account	Ungeared £m	G geared £m
Income		
On net proceeds of the Offer	4.82	4.82
On net proceeds of the Placing	—	1.91
Total income	4.82	6.73
Interest on Index Loan Stock	—	(0.89)
Income after interest	4.82	5.84
Estimated tax and expenses	(1.70)	(2.05)
	3.12	3.79
Approximate projected gross earnings yield at the Offer Price	8.2%	10.0%

Notes:

1. The notional portfolio of convertible securities is a representative portfolio of convertible securities in which the Company may invest.
2. Income has been calculated on the basis of gross annual income earned on a notional portfolio of convertible securities at close of business on 5th January, 1990 of 9.87 per cent.
3. Gross interest on the Index Loan Stock assumes that it was issued at a price based on the Index as at close of business on 5th January, 1990 and also that the growth in dividends of the companies comprising the Index will be 7 per cent. per annum.
4. Approximate projected gross earnings yield is for the 12 months ending 31st January, 1991.

RISK FACTORS

Shareholders should be aware that a portfolio of convertible securities carries risks similar to those inherent in an investment in a portfolio of equities, although the fixed yield of convertible securities and their priority over equities for distribution or on a winding up serve to reduce these risks.

For Ordinary Shareholders the effects of the gearing of the capital structure by the Index Loan Stock will be very different from those associated with traditional forms of gearing which have fixed capital entitlements. Through the Company's capital structure, Ordinary Shareholders' interests are geared to the performance of the Company's assets and income relative to the Index. Ordinary Shareholders will benefit from any outperformance, but conversely will suffer from any underperformance.

MANAGEMENT AND SECRETARIAL AGREEMENTS

Under these agreements BZW Investment Management and Ivory & Sime plc will receive in aggregate fees of three quarters of one per cent. per annum (exclusive of VAT) payable quarterly in arrears and calculated by reference to the total assets less current liabilities of the Company as described more fully in paragraph 6 of Part V of this document.

PLACING OF INDEX LOAN STOCK

Simultaneously with the Offer, £20 million of Index Loan Stock is being placed by BZW. The Placing has been fully underwritten by BZW. There is no facility under the Offer for investors to subscribe for Index Loan Stock. Application has been made for the Index Loan Stock to be admitted to the Official List of The Stock Exchange and it is expected that dealings in the Index Loan Stock will commence at 9.00 a.m. on Thursday, 8th February, 1990.

A summary of the rights attaching to the Index Loan Stock is set out in Part IV of this document.

PART II

OFFER FOR SUBSCRIPTION

BZW, on behalf of the Company, is offering for subscription 50,000,000 Ordinary Shares. The Offer has been fully underwritten by BZW. 12,500,000 Ordinary Shares are available for subscription by the public. The Directors intend to satisfy sub-underwriters' applications for a minimum of 75 per cent. of their sub-underwriting commitments to the extent that such applications are received.

Application has been made for the Ordinary Shares being offered for subscription to be admitted to the Official List of The Stock Exchange. The Ordinary Shares will rank for all dividends and other distributions declared, paid or made on the ordinary share capital after the date of this document. Full details of the Ordinary Shares are set out in Part V of this document.

APPLICATION AND DEALINGS

The procedure for application and an Application Form can be found at the end of this document. Applications must be for a minimum of 100 Ordinary Shares and must be received by post or by hand at Barclays Bank PLC, New Issues, P.O. Box 123, Fleetway House, 25 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4HD, by not later than 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 30th January, 1990.

It is expected that the basis of allocation will be announced by 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 31st January, 1990 and that fully paid renounceable letters of allotment in respect of the Ordinary Shares and/or returned cheques will be posted on Wednesday, 7th February, 1990 and that dealings in the Ordinary Shares will commence at 9.00 a.m. on Thursday, 8th February, 1990. Dealings prior to the receipt of letters of allotment will be at the risk of the applicants. A person so dealing must recognise the risk that an application may not have been accepted to the extent anticipated or at all. Letters of allotment in respect of the Ordinary Shares now being offered for subscription will be renounceable until 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 9th March, 1990. In the case of renunciation, the letter of allotment (duly completed in accordance with the instructions contained therein) must be lodged with Barclays Bank PLC, New Issues, P.O. Box 123, Fleetway House, 25 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4HD, by 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 9th March, 1990.

After Friday, 9th March, 1990 and pending the despatch of definitive certificates transfers of Ordinary Shares will be certified by the registrars against delivery of the relevant letters of allotment.

Definitive certificates in respect of the Ordinary Shares are expected to be despatched by post not later than Friday, 6th April, 1990.

PART III

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

The following is the text of a letter received by the Directors and BZW from Arthur Andersen & Co., Chartered Accountants, the auditors of the Company:

The Directors
BZW Convertible Investment Trust PLC
Ebbsgate House
2 Swan Lane
London EC4R 3TS
and

The Directors
Barclays de Zoete Wedd Limited
Ebbsgate House
2 Swan Lane
London EC4R 3TS

ARTHUR
ANDERSEN
& CO
1 Surrey Street
London WC2R 2PS

Gentlemen,
We report that BZW Convertible Investment Trust PLC (the "Company") was incorporated on 31st July, 1989 as DMWSL 048 PLC and that its name was changed to BZW Convertible Investment Trust PLC on 11th January, 1990.

The Company has not commenced to trade. A certificate under Section 117 of the Companies Act 1985, enabling the Company to commence to trade was issued on 11th January, 1990. No financial statements have been prepared in respect of any period since incorporation. No transactions have occurred since incorporation other than the allotment of Ordinary Shares disclosed under paragraph 2(c), and the entry into of the material contracts referred to in paragraph 6 of Part V of the listing particulars dated 19th January, 1990. No dividends have been declared or paid.

Yours truly,

Arthur Andersen & Co.
Chartered Accountants

PART IV

SUMMARY OF THE RIGHTS ATTACHING TO THE INDEX LOAN STOCK

1. General
The Index Loan Stock, which will be listed on The Stock Exchange, will provide over its life an investment return which matches the performance of the FT-Actuaries All-Share Index both in terms of income and capital.

The Index Loan Stock will be constituted by a trust deed (the "Trust Deed") to be entered into between the Company and The Law Debenture Trust Corporation p.l.c.

The dates as set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 below assume that the Index Loan Stock is admitted to the Official List on 8th February, 1990 as expected.

2. Capital Return

The nominal amount of one unit of Index Loan Stock is £0.05. The issue price per unit will be the amount expressed in pounds obtained by dividing the figure for the level of the Index by the amount expressed in pounds published in the Financial Times on 7th February, 1990 by 1,000. On 6th February, 1990 (as published in the Financial Times on 7th February, 1990) by 1,000. The Redemptions of units of Index Loan Stock will be at their Capital Value, being either the amount calculated by dividing the Index at the Redemption Date by 1,000, and expressing the result in pounds or, if higher, their £0.05 per unit nominal amount. Any premium (or discount) on redemption compared to the issue price will reflect the movement of the Index over the period to redemption.

3. Income Return

Interest will be related to the gross dividend yield on the Index and be paid quarterly. The first payment of interest will be made on 17th April, 1990 covering the period from 7th February, 1990 to 30th March, 1990 inclusive. If, on any day, the published gross dividend yield on the Index is 4.2 per cent., a person who had held Index Loan Stock for the whole of the preceding year would have been entitled to gross interest representing approximately 4.2 per cent. of the value of the Index on that day. By way of illustration, if the Index stood at 1200 on that day, a person who had held 1,000 units of Index Loan Stock throughout the preceding year would, in theory, have been entitled to gross interest of £30.40 (4.2 per cent. of £1,200) during that year. Owing to timing differences, however, the actual entitlement may be slightly different.

4. Redemption and Purchase

(a) The Index Loan Stock is to be redeemed by the Company in accordance with the following provisions:

(i) Redemption on Liquidation

On the liquidation of the Company, any part of the Index Loan Stock not previously repaid or purchased will be repaid in an amount equal to the Capital Value thereof at the date of commencement of the liquidation together with accrued interest to such date. The Articles of Association of the Company contain provisions (summarised in paragraph 3(k) in Part V of this document) under which the Company will go into liquidation in 1996, or in each successive second year thereafter, unless in each case the Ordinary Shareholders resolve by ordinary resolution at the immediately preceding Annual General Meeting of the Company to release the Directors from the obligation to convene the Extraordinary General Meeting at which the liquidation resolution would be proposed.

(ii) Redemption on Final Redemption Date

To the extent that the Index Loan Stock has not previously been redeemed the Company shall redeem the whole of the Index Loan Stock outstanding on the Settlement Date (as defined in the Trust Deed) following 30th June, 2002 which date of 30th June, 2002 shall be a Redemption Date, at the Capital Value (as described above) thereof on that Redemption Date together with interest accrued thereon to such Redemption Date.

(iii) Stockholders' Option to Redeem

Each Stockholder shall, subject to and upon the terms and conditions of the Trust Deed, have the right exercisable by three months' notice given to the Company to expire after 31st July, 1996 to require the Company to redeem the whole or any part of his Index Loan Stock (being integral multiples of one unit of Index Loan Stock) on the Settlement Date following the Redemption Date (such Redemption Date being the first date following the expiry of the said period of three months which is the last Dealing Day of any month) at the Capital Value thereof on that Redemption Date together with interest accrued on the Index Loan Stock to such Redemption Date.

(iv) Company's Right to Redeem

If the Company becomes within the charge to United Kingdom corporation or other tax on its chargeable or capital gains, or if there is any other change in United Kingdom taxation or the rate at which it is payable which would adversely affect the Company if the Index Loan Stock were not redeemed (of which the Directors shall be the sole judge) or if at any time after 30th September, 1996 the units of Index Loan Stock outstanding fall below 25 per cent. of the aggregate of the number of such units issued under the Placing and any further such units which may be created and issued, the Company may redeem on the Settlement Date following the Redemption Date (being such date as the Directors may determine in accordance with the Trust Deed) the whole, but not part only, of the Index Loan Stock at the Capital Value thereof on that Redemption Date together with interest accrued on the Index Loan Stock to such Redemption Date.

(v) Take-Over Offer

If any offer is made to all the holders of the ordinary shares of the Company to acquire the whole or any part of the ordinary shares of the Company and the Company becomes aware that the offer is made to all the holders of the ordinary shares of the Company or is cast on a poll at a general meeting of the Company and/or any person associated or acting in concert with the offeror, the Company shall within fourteen days of its becoming so aware give notice of the fact in writing (in a form previously approved by the trustees) to the Stockholders and shall redeem on the Settlement Date following the date falling forty days after the date of such notice, which fortieth day shall be a Redemption Date, the whole, but not part only of the Index Loan Stock at the Capital Value thereof on that Redemption Date together with interest accrued on the Index Loan Stock to such Redemption Date. For this purpose, the proposing of a scheme of arrangement under any statute for the time being applicable to companies providing for the acquisition by or vesting in any person the whole or any part of the ordinary shares of the Company shall be deemed to be the making of an offer.

(vi) Redemption in Other Circumstances

The Trust Deed also contains provisions for the Index Loan Stock to be redeemed if the Index is discontinued and no Comparable Index (as defined in the Trust Deed) has been adopted in its place and either no meeting of Stockholders is convened for the purpose of approving a substitute index, or such a meeting is convened but no substitute index is approved, or upon the happening of an event of default under the Trust Deed, in each case at the Capital Value on the relevant Redemption Date together with interest accrued to that date.

(b) The Company will be entitled at any time to purchase Index Loan Stock (i) by tender (available alike to all Stockholders) or by private treaty at a price (inclusive of the net amount of accrued interest but exclusive of the expenses of purchase) not exceeding an amount equal to the average of the Relative Prices during the period of ten dealing days ("the Relevant Period") immediately prior to the date of such tender or purchase multiplied by the Capital Value for the last day of the Relevant Period or (ii) through the market at the market price, provided that such market price does not exceed five per cent. above the amount equal to the average of the Relative Prices during the Relevant Period multiplied by the Capital Value for the last day of the Relevant Period or (iii) from a subsidiary at any price, but not otherwise. For this purpose, the Relative Price for any dealing day is the middle market quotation for the Index Loan Stock for that day (as derived from The Stock Exchange Daily Official List) divided by the Capital Value for that day.

5. Borrowing Limits and Other Restrictions

(a) Except with the prior sanction of an extraordinary resolution, the Company will procure that so long as any part of the Index Loan Stock remains outstanding, the aggregate amount of all moneys borrowed by the Company and its subsidiaries ("the Group") (exclusive of borrowings by one member of the Group from another) together with any fixed or index-linked stock or other index-linked obligation, the highest amount that would be repayable thereon under the provisions of the instrument constituting such stock or obligation if such stock or obligation were to be redeemed on the date on which the calculation falls to be made) shall not at the time of borrowing exceed (i) £62.5 million until the date of publication of the first audited balance sheet of the Company and (ii) thereafter a sum equal to 1.25 times the Adjusted Total of Capital and Reserves. For this purpose the expressions "moneys borrowed" and "Adjusted Total of Capital and Reserves" have the same meanings as they do for the purpose of the borrowing limits contained in the Articles of Association as described in paragraph 3(f) of Part V of this document.

(b) So long as any part of the Index Loan Stock remains outstanding, the Company will not (whether by the acquisition of subsidiaries or otherwise) take any action whereby the general nature of the business of the Company and its subsidiaries as a whole shall to a substantial extent be carried on other than as investment companies directly deriving their income mainly from shares and securities, provided that the extension of such business to include activities allied to that of an investment company or the ownership of an investment dealing company shall not be treated as a breach of this provision.

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PART V

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The Company

The Company was incorporated in England and Wales on 31st July, 1989 as a public limited company under the Companies Act 1985 ("the Act"), under the name of DMWSL 048 PLC with registered number 2409732. The name of the Company was changed to BZW Convertible Investment Trust PLC on 11th January, 1990. Since incorporation the Company has not carried on business or incurred borrowings. The Company has received a certificate, issued on 11th January, 1990 by the Registrar of Companies under Section 117 of the Act, enabling it to commence business.

2. Share Capital

(a) The authorised share capital of the Company upon incorporation was £50,000 divided into 50,000 ordinary shares of £1 each of which two shares were issued, nil paid, to the subscribers of the Memorandum of Association.

(b) The Articles of Association of the Company adopted upon incorporation of the Company provided that the Directors were, pursuant to Section 80 of the Act, given authority (expiring on 30th June, 1990), to allot and to make offers or agreements to allot relevant securities (as defined in Section 80(2) of the Act) up to the amount of the then authorised unissued share capital of the Company.

(c) On 27th December, 1989 the two ordinary shares of £1 each issued, nil paid, to the subscribers of the Memorandum of Association were transferred to BZW and Barrow Nominees Limited ("the transferees") and paid up in full together with a premium of £9 per share.

(d) Pursuant to an ordinary resolution passed on 27th December, 1989 each of the issued and unissued ordinary shares of £1 each of the Company was sub-divided into 10 Ordinary Shares.

(e) On 9th January, 1990 BZW was allotted 499,980 Ordinary Shares against its irrevocable undertaking to pay 100p in cash for each Ordinary Share on or before the date on which the Ordinary Shares are admitted to the Official List of the Stock Exchange, unless the admission of the Ordinary Shares to the Stock Exchange does not become effective by 15th February, 1990 whereupon BZW shall pay 10p in cash for each Ordinary Share on or before 31st May, 1990.

(f) Pursuant to a special resolution passed on 17th January, 1990:

(i) the authorised share capital of the Company was increased from £50,000 to £5,050,000 by the creation of 5,000,000 additional Ordinary Shares;

(ii) the Directors were generally and unconditionally authorised in accordance with Section 80 of the Act to exercise all the powers of the Company to allot relevant securities (as defined in that Section) up to an aggregate nominal amount of 5,000,000 such authority to expire on 11th January, 1995 so that such authority shall allow the Company to make offers or agreements before the expiry of this authority which would or might require relevant securities to be allotted after such expiry and all previous authorities granted to the Directors to allot relevant securities were thereby revoked;

(iii) the Directors were empowered until 11th January, 1991 to allot equity securities (as defined in Section 94(2) of the Act) pursuant to the authority referred to in paragraph (ii) above as if Section 89(1) of the Act did not apply to any such allotment of equity securities provided that such power is limited to the allotment of Ordinary Shares in connection with the Offer; and

(iv) the objects clause in the Memorandum of Association was altered and new Articles of Association were adopted.

(g) Following the Offer, the authorised and issued share capital of the Company will be £5,050,000 divided into 50,500,000 Ordinary Shares.

(h) Save for the placing and as disclosed in this paragraph 2, since the date of its incorporation no share or loan capital of the Company has been issued or agreed to be issued, or is now proposed to be issued, for cash or any other consideration and no commissions, discounts, brokerage or other special terms have been granted by the Company in connection with the issue or sale of any such capital.

(i) No share or loan capital of the Company is under option or has been agreed, conditionally or unconditionally, to be put under option.

(j) All the Ordinary Shares will be in registered form.

3. Memorandum and Articles of Association

The Memorandum of Association of the Company provides that the Company's principal object is to carry on the business of an investment trust company in all its branches. The objects of the Company are set out fully in Clause IV (1) of the Memorandum of Association, which is available for inspection at the address specified in paragraph 10 below.

The Articles of Association ("the Articles") which have been adopted as mentioned in paragraph 2(f)(iv) above contain provisions *inter alia* to the following effect:

(a) Voting Rights

Subject to any special rights or restrictions as to voting attached to any shares by or in accordance with the Articles of Association, on a show of hands every member holding Ordinary Shares of the Company who (being an individual) is present in person or (being a corporation) is present by a duly authorised representative shall have one vote and on a poll every member present as aforesaid or by proxy shall have one vote for every Ordinary Share held by him.

No member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting if any call or other sum immediately payable by him in respect of shares in the Company remains unpaid or if a member has been served by the Directors with a Direction Notice in the manner described in the paragraph headed "Restrictions on Shares" below.

(b) Restrictions on Shares

If a member or any person appearing to be interested in shares in the Company has been duly served with a notice ("Statutory Notice") pursuant to Section 212 of the Act and is in default in supplying to the Company information thereby required within a prescribed period after the service of such notice the Directors may serve on such member or on any such person a notice (a "Direction Notice") in respect of the shares in relation to which the default occurred ("default shares") directing that the member shall not be entitled to vote at any general meeting or class meeting of the Company until the Statutory Notice has been complied with and for such period thereafter as is necessary for the Directors to ascertain that compliance has been effected and is complete in all respects. Where the default shares represent at least 0.25 per cent. of the class of shares concerned the Direction Notice may in addition direct that until the Statutory Notice has been complied with and for such period thereafter as is necessary for the Directors to ascertain that compliance has been effected and is complete in all respects any dividend or other money which would otherwise be payable on such shares shall be retained by the Company without liability to pay interest and no transfer of any of the shares held by the member shall be registered unless the member is not himself in default in supplying the information requested and the transfer is part only of the member's holding and is accompanied by a certificate given by the member in a form satisfactory to the Directors to the effect that after due and careful enquiry the member is satisfied that no person in default is interested in any shares subject to the transfer. The prescribed period referred to above means 14 days from the date of service of the notice under Section 212 where the default shares represent at least 0.25 per cent. of the class of shares concerned and 28 days in all other cases. Any Direction Notice shall cease to have effect in relation to any shares which are transferred by means of an approved transfer (as defined in the Articles).

(c) Variation of Class Rights and Alteration of Capital

(i) Subject to the Act, if at any time the share capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, the rights attached to any class of shares may be modified, abrogated or varied either with the consent in writing of the holders of three-fourths of the issued shares of the relevant class or with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of the shares of that class. To every such separate general meeting the provisions of Sections 369, 370, 376 and 377 of the Act and the provisions of the Articles relating to general meetings shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, but so that the necessary quorum at any such meeting other than an adjourned meeting shall be two persons holding or representing by proxy at least one-third in nominal value of the issued shares of the relevant class and at an adjourned meeting one person holding shares of the class or his proxy. Any holder of shares of the relevant class present in person or by proxy may demand a poll. The rights attached to any class of shares shall, unless otherwise expressly provided by the terms of issue of such shares or by the terms upon which such shares are for the time being held, be deemed not to be modified, abrogated or varied by the creation or issue of further shares ranking *pari passu* therewith.

(ii) The Company may by ordinary resolution increase its share capital, consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger amount, sub-divide its shares into shares of smaller amount and cancel any shares not taken or agreed to be taken by any person.

(iii) Subject to any consent required by law, the Company may by special resolution reduce its share capital, any capital redemption reserve and any share premium account.

(iv) Subject to the provisions of the Act and of the Articles, all unissued shares of the Company are at the disposal of the Directors.

(v) Subject to the provisions of the Act, any shares may be issued on terms that they are, or at the option of the Company or the shareholders are liable to be redeemed on the terms and at the option provided for by the Articles.

(vi) The Company may purchase its own shares (including any redeemable shares) provided that the Company shall not purchase its own shares if there are outstanding any convertible shares which remain capable of being converted, unless such purchase has been sanctioned by an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate meeting of the holders of each class of such convertible shares.

(d) Transfer of Shares

The instrument of transfer of a share shall be signed by or on behalf of the transferor (and, in the case of a share which is not fully paid, by or on behalf of the transferee) and the transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of the share until the name of the transferee is entered in the register in respect thereof. All transfers shall be effected by instrument in writing in any usual or common form or any other form which the Directors may approve. The Directors may, in their absolute discretion and without giving any reason, refuse to register the transfer of a share which is not fully paid. The Directors may likewise refuse to register a transfer in favour of more than four persons jointly. The Directors may decline to recognise any instrument of transfer unless it is left at the registered office to be registered, accompanied by the relevant certificate and such other evidence as the Directors may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer and unless the instrument is in respect of only one class of share. The registration of transfers may be suspended by the Directors for any period (not exceeding 30 days in any year).

(c) Directors

(i) The business of the Company shall be managed by the Directors, who may exercise all such powers of the Company as are not, by the Act or by the Articles, required to be exercised by the Company in general meeting, subject nevertheless to the provisions of the Articles and of the Act, and to such directions, being not inconsistent with any provisions of the Articles or of the Act, as may be given by the Company in general meeting.

(ii) A Director who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in a contract or proposed contract with the Company shall, at a meeting of the Board, declare in accordance with the Act the nature of his interest and the interest of any person who is connected with him within the meaning of the Act.

(iii) No Director shall be disqualified by his office from entering into any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal with the Company either with regard to his tenure of any other office or place of profit or acting in a professional capacity for the Company or as a vendor, purchaser or otherwise. Subject to the provisions of the Act and save as therein provided, no such contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal entered into by or on behalf of the Company in which any Director or person connected with him is in any way interested, whether directly or indirectly, shall be liable to be avoided, nor shall any Director who enters into any such contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal or who is so interested be liable to account to the Company for any profit realised by any such contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal by reason of such Director holding that office or of the fiduciary relationship thereby established, but such Director shall declare the nature of his interest in accordance with sub-paragraph (ii) above.

(iv) A Director shall (in the absence of some other material interest than is indicated below) be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of any resolution concerning any of the following matters, namely:

(aa) the giving of any security or indemnity to him in respect of money lent or obligations incurred by him at the request of or for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiaries;

(bb) the giving of any security or indemnity to a third party in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiaries for which he himself has assumed responsibility in whole or in part under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;

(cc) any proposal concerning an offer of shares or debentures or other securities of or by the Company or any of its subsidiaries for subscription or purchase in which offer he is or is to be interested as a participant in the underwriting or sub-underwriting thereof;

(dd) any contract, arrangement, transaction or other proposal concerning any other company in which he is interested, directly or indirectly and whether as an officer or shareholder or otherwise, provided that he is not the holder of, or beneficially interested in, one per cent. or more of any class of the equity share capital (or of a third company through which his interest is derived) or of the voting rights available to members of the relevant company (any such interest being deemed for these purposes to be a material interest in all circumstances);

(ee) any contract, arrangement, transaction or other proposal concerning the adoption, modification or operation of a superannuation fund or retirement benefits scheme under which he may benefit and which relates to both employees and Directors and which does not accord to any Director as such any privilege or advantage not generally accorded to the employees to whom such scheme or fund relates; and

(ff) any contract, arrangement, transaction or other proposal concerning the adoption, modification or operation of any scheme for enabling employees including full-time executive Directors of the Company and/or any subsidiary to acquire shares of the Company or any arrangement for the benefit of employees of the Company or any of its subsidiaries under which the Director benefits in a similar manner to employees.

(v) If any question shall arise at any meeting as to the materiality of a Director's interest or as to the entitlement of any Director to vote and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, such question shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting and his ruling in relation to any other Director shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interests of the Director concerned has not been fairly disclosed.

(vi) Save as provided in sub-paragraph (iv) above, a Director shall not vote or be counted in the quorum present on any motion in respect of any contract, arrangement, transaction or any other proposal in which he has any material interest (otherwise than by virtue of his interests in shares or debentures or other securities of or otherwise in or through the Company).

(vii) The Directors shall be paid out of the funds of the Company by way of fees for their services as Directors such sums (if any) as the Directors may from time to time determine (not exceeding in the aggregate an annual sum of £50,000 or such larger amount as the Company may by ordinary resolution determine) and such remuneration shall be divided between the Directors as they shall agree or, failing agreement, equally. Such remuneration shall be deemed to accrue from day to day.

(viii) Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Directors may from time to time appoint one or more of their body to the office of Managing Director or such other executive office as they may decide. His appointment shall be automatically determined if he ceases from any cause to be a Director, without prejudice to any claim for damages such Director may have for breach of any service contract between him and the Company. The salary or remuneration of any Managing Director or executive Director shall, subject as provided in any contract, be such as the Directors may from time to time determine, and may either be a fixed sum of money, or may altogether or in part be governed by the business done or profits made, and may include the making of provisions for the payment to him, his widow or other dependants, of a pension on retirement from the office or employment to which he is appointed and for the participation in pension and life assurance benefits.

(ix) Any Director who is appointed to any executive office or who serves on any committee or who devotes special attention to the business of the Company, or who otherwise performs services which, in the opinion of the Directors, are outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a Director, may be paid such extra remuneration by way of salary, percentage of profits or otherwise as the Directors may determine.

(x) The Directors may be paid all reasonable travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in attending and returning from meetings of the Directors or any committee of the Directors or general meetings or otherwise in connection with the business of the Company.

(xi) Subject to the provisions of the Act, a Director may hold any other office or place of profit under the Company, except that of Auditor, in conjunction with the office of Director and may act by himself or through his firm in a professional capacity for the Company, and in any such case on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise as the Directors may arrange.

(xii) Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment) of two or more Directors to offices or employments with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested, such proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately and in such cases each of the Directors concerned (subject to the Articles) shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.

(xiii) Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company may, by ordinary resolution, suspend or restrict the provisions of this provision to any extent or ratify any transaction not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of those provisions.

(xiv) Section 293 of the Act (which regulates the appointment and continuation in office of Directors who have attained the age of 70) shall apply to the Company.

(xv) Each Director shall have the power at any time to appoint as an alternate Director either (i) another Director or (ii) any other person approved for that purpose by a resolution of the Directors, and, at any time, to terminate such appointment.

(xvi) At the first annual general meeting of the Company all the Directors shall retire from office, and at every subsequent annual general meeting of the Company one-third of the Directors for the time being, or, if their number is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to but not exceeding one-third, shall retire from office.

(xvii) Unless and until the Company in general meeting shall otherwise determine, the number of Directors shall not be more than seven nor less than two.

(f) Borrowing Powers

The Directors may, save as the Articles provide otherwise, exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge its undertaking, property and uncalled capital, or any part thereof, and, subject to the provisions of the Act and the Articles, to issue debentures, debenture stock and other securities whether outright or as security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

The Directors shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all voting and other rights and powers of control exercisable by the Company in relation to its subsidiaries (if any) so as to secure (so far as regards subsidiaries, as by such exercise they can secure) that the aggregate amount for the time being remaining undischarged of all monies borrowed by the Company and its subsidiaries exclusive of borrowings by one member of the Group from another, together with any fixed or minimum premium payable on final redemption or repayment thereof, shall not at the time of borrowing, without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company in general meeting, exceed (a) £82.5 million until the date of publication of the first audited Balance Sheet and (b) thereafter a sum equal to 1.25 times the adjusted total of capital and reserves. For this purpose the adjusted total of capital and reserves means the aggregate of (i) the amount paid up on the share capital of the Company and (ii) the amount standing to the credit of the capital and revenue reserves (including any share premium account, capital redemption reserve and balance on the revenue account) all as shown in the latest Balance Sheet but after such adjustments and deductions as are specified in the relevant Article. In the case of an index-linked stock or other index-linked obligation, monies borrowed are deemed to include the highest amount that would be repayable thereon under the provisions of the instrument constituting or regulating such stock or obligation if such stock or obligation were to be redeemed on the date on which the calculation falls to be made. For this purpose "Balance Sheet" means the published audited balance sheet of the Company unless as at the date to

which audited accounts incorporating such balance sheet are made up the Company shall have a subsidiary or subsidiaries, in which event "Balance Sheet" means the consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its subsidiaries as at that date (provided that if at that date the Company has a subsidiary or subsidiaries and a consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its subsidiaries (and no others) has not been prepared as at that date, "Balance Sheet" shall mean a consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its subsidiaries (and no others) prepared by the Company as at such date and reported on by the Company's auditors as having been properly prepared and the date of publication of such consolidated balance sheet shall be taken to be the date of such report by the Auditors) and references to reserves and revenue account shall be deemed to be references to consolidated reserves and consolidated revenue account respectively as disclosed by such consolidated balance sheet.

(g) Pensions, Gratuities, etc.

The Directors may give or award pensions, gratuities and superannuation or other allowances or benefits to, *inter alia*, any director, ex-director, employee or co-employee of the Company or of any of its subsidiaries (present or past) or the relatives or dependants of any such person and may establish, maintain, support, subscribe to and contribute to all kinds of schemes, trusts and funds.

(h) Dividends and Distributions on Liquidation to Ordinary Shareholders

The Company in general meeting may declare dividends, but no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the Directors. All dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares and shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid. The Directors may pay such interim dividends as appear to them to be justified by the profits of the Company. On a liquidation, the liquidator may, with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by the Act, divide amongst the members the assets of the Company and may, for such purpose, set such value as he deems fair upon any property to be divided and may determine how such dividend shall be carried out.

The Directors may, before recommending any dividend, set aside out of the Company's profits such sums as they think proper as a reserve or reserves which will be applicable for any purpose to which the Company's profits may be properly applied and may in the meantime either be employed in the Company's business or invested in such investments as the Directors think fit. The Directors may divide the reserve into separate accounts and consolidate wholly or partly any separate accounts in the reserve fund. The Directors may also without placing the same to reserve, carry forward any profits which they think it is prudent not to divide.

(i) Capital Reserve

All surpluses arising from the realisation of investments and all other monies realised on or derived from the realisation of or dealing with any capital asset in excess of the book value and all other monies which are in the nature of accretion to capital shall be credited to a capital reserve to be maintained by the Company. Any loss realised on the sale, repayment or payment of any investments or other capital assets may be carried to the debit of the capital reserve and any increase or diminution in the amount of any index-linked obligation of the Company may be carried to the debit or credit of the capital reserve except so far as the Directors may at their discretion decide to make good the same out of or credit the same to the other funds or reserves of the Company. All sums carried and standing to the credit of the capital reserve may be applied for any of the purposes to which sums standing to any revenue reserve are applicable except and provided that no part of the capital reserve or any other monies in the nature of accretion to capital shall be transferred to the revenue account or be regarded as or treated as profits of the Company available for distribution (as defined by Section 263(2) of the Act) or be applied in paying dividends on any shares in the Company's capital. The Directors may determine whether any amount received by the Company is to be dealt with as income or capital or partly in one way and partly in the other.

(j) Unclaimed Dividends

Any dividend unclaimed for a period of twelve years from the date of its declaration shall be forfeited and shall revert to the Company.

(k) Duration and Winding-up

(i) The Directors shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company to be held on 30th July, 1996 and shall procure that an ordinary resolution providing for the Company to be wound up on a voluntary basis pursuant to Section 84(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986 ("liquidation resolution") is proposed to the holders of Ordinary Shares at that meeting unless at the Annual General Meeting of the Company in respect of the financial period of the Company ending on 31st July, 1995 an ordinary resolution is passed releasing the Directors from such obligation. Every holder of Ordinary Shares present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote shall be obliged to vote in favour of a liquidation resolution.

(ii) If the Directors are released from their obligation to put the liquidation resolution pursuant to the provisions in sub-paragraph (i) above, the Directors shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company to be held within twelve months after the Annual General Meeting of the Company held in respect of the financial period of the Company ending 31st July, 1997 and in each successive second year thereafter unless at each preceding Annual General Meeting an ordinary resolution is passed releasing the Directors from such obligation, and shall procure that a liquidation resolution is proposed thereat.

(l) If the Management Agreement referred to in paragraph 6(c) below is terminated, or if any offer is made to all the holders of Ordinary Shares to acquire the whole or any part of the Ordinary Shares and the right to cast more than 50 per cent. of the votes which may ordinarily be cast at a general meeting of the Company has or will become vested in the offeror and/or any company controlled by the offeror and/or any person associated, or acting in concert, with the offeror then, in either such event, BZW Investment Management shall be entitled by notice in writing to the Company to require that the name of the Company be changed to a name which does not contain the letters "BZW" or the terms "Barclays", "de Zoete" or "Wadd" or any letters or words colourably or confusingly similar thereto. If within three months after the giving of such notice the name of the Company has not been changed, BZW Investment Management shall be entitled to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company for the purpose of passing a special resolution (the "name change resolution") adopting as the name of the Company a name selected by BZW Investment Management and every holder of Ordinary Shares present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote shall be obliged to vote in favour of the name change resolution.

4. Directors and Other Interests

(a) Interests in Ordinary Shares and Index Loan Stock

(i) It is intended that the Directors' proposed applications will be accepted in full. If they are accepted in full, the interests of the Directors, beneficial or otherwise, in Ordinary Shares and Index Loan Stock immediately following the Offer and the Placing, as will be shown in the register of such interests required to be maintained under the provisions of Section 325 of the Act, will be as follows:

Name of Director	Ordinary Shares	No. of Units of Index Loan Stock
P. Birch	20,000	nil
D. A. Acland	5,000	nil
B. J. Southcott	nil	nil
P. R. Withers Green	30,000	nil

(ii) Save as disclosed in sub-paragraph (i) above, none of the Directors will immediately following the Offer have any interest in the share or loan capital of the Company.

(iii) BZW will immediately following the Offer be beneficially interested in 500,000 Ordinary Shares representing 1.0 per cent. of the then issued share capital.

(iv) The Directors are not aware of any person who immediately following the Offer will be interested directly or indirectly (within the meaning of Part VI of the Act) in 5 per cent. or more, of the issued share capital of the Company or could, directly or indirectly, jointly or severally, exercise control over the Company.

(b) Emoluments

The aggregate emoluments of the Directors in respect of the financial period ending 31st July, 1990 are expected not to exceed £10,000. D. A. Acland and P. R. Withers Green have agreed to waive their entitlements to Directors' fees for this period.

(c) Transactions and Benefits

(i) Save as disclosed in sub-paragraphs (iii) and (iv) below, no Director has any interest in any transactions which are or were unusual in their nature or conditions or significant to the business of the Company.

(ii) Save as disclosed in sub-paragraphs (iii) and (iv) below, none of the Directors is materially interested in any contract or arrangement subsisting at the date of this document which is significant in relation to the business of the Company.

(iii) D. A. Acland is a director of BZW Investment Management and is a shareholder in Barclays PLC, the ultimate holding company of BZW and BZW Investment Management.

(iv) P. R. Withers Green is a director of BZW Investment Management and a shareholder in Barclays de Zoete Wadd Holdings Limited, the holding company of BZW Investment Management and BZW.

(d) Service Agreements

There are no service contracts in existence between the Company and any of the Directors nor are any such contracts proposed.

5. Offer for Subscription Agreement

By an Offer for Subscription Agreement dated 19th January, 1990 between the Company (1) the Directors (2), BZW (3) and BZW Investment Management (4) BZW has agreed subject, *inter alia*, to the Ordinary Shares to be issued under the Offer being admitted to the Official List of the Stock Exchange by close of business on 15th February, 1990, to subscribe or procure subscribers at the Offer Price for all of such Ordinary Shares. The Company will pay BZW an underwriting commission of 2 per cent. of the Offer Price (out of which BZW will pay sub-underwriting commissions of 14 per cent. of the Offer Price) and a fee of £60,000 and will pay BZW's expenses incidental to the Offer, in all cases together with VAT where applicable. Under the Agreement, which may be terminated by BZW in certain circumstances, warranties and indemnities have been given by the Company to BZW.

6. Material Contracts

The following contracts, not being entered into in the ordinary course of business, have been entered into by the Company since its incorporation and are or may be material:

(a) the Offer for Subscription Agreement referred to in paragraph 5 above;

(b) a Placing Agreement dated 19th January, 1990 between the Company (1), the Directors (2), BZW (3) and BZW Investment Management (4), whereby BZW has agreed subject, *inter alia*, to the Index Loan Stock to be issued under the Placing being admitted to the Official List of the Stock Exchange by close of business on 15th February, 1990 to subscribe or procure subscribers at the Issue Price (as referred to in paragraph 2 of Part IV of this document) for all the Index Loan Stock. The Company will pay a fee to BZW

of £50,000 plus 1 per cent. of the aggregate Issue Price together with a commission at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent. of the aggregate Issue Price (out of which BZW will pay sub-underwriting commissions of 2 1/2 per cent. of the Issue Price) and will pay BZW's expenses incidental to the Placing, in all cases together with VAT where applicable. Under the Agreement, which may be terminated by BZW in certain circumstances, warranties and indemnities have been given by the Company to BZW;

- (c) an agreement (the "Management Agreement") dated 19th January, 1990 between the Company (1) and BZW Investment Management (2) whereby, conditionally upon the Ordinary Shares and the Index Loan Stock being admitted to the Official List of The Stock Exchange by close of business on 15th February, 1990, BZW Investment Management has agreed to provide investment management services to the Company in consideration of a quarterly management fee payable in arrears on 31st January, 30th April, 31st July and 31st October in each year equal to the sum which, when there is added to it the fees payable in the same quarter to the Secretary under the Secretarial Agreement referred to in paragraph (d) below, is equal to the amount calculated at the rate of 0.1875 per cent. per quarter (plus VAT) by reference to the net proceeds of the Offer and the Placing in respect of the period ending on 30th April, 1990 and thereafter by reference to the total assets less current liabilities of the Company and its subsidiaries. The first payment under the Management Agreement will be payable on 30th April, 1990 in respect of the period from the date on which the Ordinary Shares and the Index Loan Stock are admitted to the Official List of The Stock Exchange to 30th April, 1990. The Management Agreement contains provisions indemnifying BZW Investment Management against any liability not due to its own wilful default or negligence. The Management Agreement is to continue until 31st July, 1992 and thereafter unless terminated by either party giving to the other not less than one year's written notice of its intention to terminate the agreement (so as to expire no earlier than 31st July, 1992, subject to earlier termination as provided for therein; and
- (d) an agreement (the "Secretarial Agreement") dated 19th January, 1990 between the Company (1) and Ivory & Sime plc (2) whereby, conditionally upon the Ordinary Shares and the Index Loan Stock being admitted to the Official List of The Stock Exchange by close of business on 15th February, 1990, Ivory & Sime plc has agreed to provide administrative and secretarial services to the Company in consideration of (i) an annual fee of £75,000 indexed in line with the Retail Prices Index with effect from 1st August, 1990 and annually thereafter and payable quarterly in arrears on 31st January, 30th April, 31st July and 31st October in each year, and (ii) a variable fee of 0.075 per cent. per annum of the net proceeds of the Offer and the Placing for the seven months ending on 31st July, 1990 and thereafter by reference to the total assets less current liabilities of the Company as at 31st July in each year. The first payment under the Secretarial Agreement will be payable on 30th April, 1990 in respect of the period from 1st January, 1990 to 30th April, 1990. The Secretarial Agreement contains provisions indemnifying Ivory & Sime plc against any liability not due to its own default or negligence. The Secretarial Agreement is to continue until and unless terminated by either party giving to the other not less than twelve months' written notice of its intention to terminate the agreement, subject to earlier termination as provided for therein.

7. Taxation

(a) The Company

(i) Investment Trust Status

It is the intention of the Directors to conduct the affairs of the Company so that it satisfies the conditions for approval as an investment trust as set out in Section 842 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. Such approval is granted retrospectively for each accounting period. Accordingly, the Company will be exempt from United Kingdom corporation tax on capital gains in respect of each chargeable accounting period for which such approval is granted.

(ii) Convertible Securities

The Inland Revenue issued a consultative paper in October, 1989 on the treatment of gains realised on the disposal of convertible securities. It is anticipated that certain of the proposals will be incorporated in the 1990 Finance Bill, which may affect whether a portion of certain gains is taxed as income to the Company.

(iii) Index Loan Stock

Under current tax legislation the payments of interest on the Index Loan Stock will be allowable interest and therefore deductible for tax purposes against the taxable income of the Company. Further, any premium or discount on redemption of the Index Loan Stock will be treated as capital in nature and will not be taken into account in the computation of the Company's liability to corporation tax.

(b) Ordinary Shareholders

The comments below are of a general and summary nature and are based on the Company's understanding of certain aspects of current United Kingdom law and practice relevant to the treatment of the Ordinary Shares. The comments relate to the position of persons who are the absolute beneficial owners of Ordinary Shares and may not apply to certain classes of persons such as dealers.

(i) Chargeable Gains

On the transfer or disposal of Ordinary Shares, a chargeable gain or allowable loss may arise for the purposes of United Kingdom taxation. United Kingdom capital gains tax (or for companies, corporation tax) on chargeable gains generally applies only to persons resident or ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and to persons not so resident but carrying on a trade in the United Kingdom through a branch, agency or permanent establishment. For individuals, capital gains tax is currently levied at the rate of either 25 per cent. or 40 per cent. depending on the level of their total income and gains for the year. Corporation tax on chargeable gains is normally levied at the rate of 35 per cent. The availability of any relief from or credit for such United Kingdom taxation liability against liabilities imposed by other jurisdictions on disposals of Ordinary Shares will depend, in general, on the terms of any relevant double tax convention or agreement and on the laws of such jurisdictions.

(ii) Dividends

(aa) When paying a dividend to shareholders, the Company may have to remit to the Inland Revenue an amount of advance corporation tax ("ACT") at a rate which is related to the basic rate of income tax and for the fiscal year 1989/1990 is 25.75% of the dividend paid. Accordingly, the ACT related to a dividend will be 25 per cent. of the sum of the cash dividend plus the ACT. The Company will only be liable to remit an amount of ACT to the Inland Revenue if the franked payments paid to shareholders exceed the aggregate of any qualifying distributions (franked investment income) received by the Company in the same accounting period and any surplus franked investment income carried forward from previous accounting periods.

(bb) For non-corporate shareholders resident in the United Kingdom, the ACT is available as a basic rate tax credit which individual shareholders who are so resident may set off against their total income tax liability or, in appropriate cases, reclaim in cash. United Kingdom resident corporate shareholders will not be liable to United Kingdom corporation tax on any dividend received.

(cc) Whether the holders of shares in the Company who are resident in countries other than the United Kingdom are entitled to payment from the Inland Revenue or the Company of a proportion of, or all of, the tax credit in respect of dividends on such shares depends in general upon the provisions of any double tax convention or agreement which exists between such countries and the United Kingdom. Persons who are not resident in the United Kingdom should consult their own tax advisers on the possible application of such provisions and what relief or credit may be claimed in the jurisdiction in which they are resident.

(iii) Inheritance Tax

Ordinary Shares will have a United Kingdom situs for the purposes of inheritance tax and so will be within the charge to such tax, although no charge will arise in respect of certain types of gifts made more than seven years before the death of the donor.

(iv) Stamp Duty and Stamp Duty Reserve Tax

Stamp duty (or stamp duty reserve tax unless, in general, the transfer is duly stamped within two months of the agreement to transfer) will be payable on a transfer or sale of Ordinary Shares at the rate of 50p per £100 or part thereof of the consideration paid. A purchaser of rights to Ordinary Shares represented by a renounceable letter of allotment on or before the latest time for registration of renunciation will be liable to stamp duty reserve tax at the rate of 50p per £100 or part thereof of the consideration paid.

Shareholders who are in any doubt as to their personal tax position or who may be subject to tax in any other jurisdiction should consult their professional advisers.

8. Other Investment Information

It is the intention of the Directors to conduct the affairs of the Company so that it satisfies the conditions for approval as an investment trust set out in Section 842 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, and in addition it will be their policy *inter alia*:

- (a) not to lend or invest more than 10 per cent. of the assets of the Company, or, if the Company has subsidiaries, of the Group (before deducting borrowed money) to or in the securities of any one company (other than holdings in another investment trust which has been approved by the Inland Revenue or which would qualify for such approval but for the fact that it is not listed) including loans to or shares in its own subsidiaries; and
- (b) that not more than 25 per cent. of the assets of the Company, or, if the Company has subsidiaries, of the Group (before deducting borrowed money) will be invested in the aggregate of (i) securities not listed on any recognised stock exchange (for which purpose securities quoted on the NASDAQ system in the United States of America and Canada are treated as securities listed on a recognised stock exchange and (ii) holdings in which the interest of the Company, or, if the Company has subsidiaries, of the Group, amounts to 20 per cent. or more of the aggregate of the equity capital (including any capital having an element of equity) of any one listed company (other than another company which has been approved as an investment trust by the Inland Revenue or which would qualify for such approval but for the fact that it is not listed).

None of the restrictions will require the realisation of any relevant assets of the Company where any of such restrictions is breached as a result of any event outside the control of the Company and occurring after the investment in the relevant assets is made or by reason of the receipt or exercise of any rights, bonuses or benefits in the nature of capital or any scheme or arrangement for amalgamation, reconstruction, conversion or exchange or of any repayment or redemption. The realisation of any investment amounting to 25 per cent. or more by value of the assets of the Company will be made only with the consent of shareholders.

The investment policy set out will, in accordance with The Stock Exchange requirements, be adhered to for at least three years following listing and the policy of investment in convertible securities will not be altered at any time without the consent of shareholders in general meeting.

9. General

(a) The principal place of business of the Company is at Seal House, 1 Swan Lane, London EC4R 4JD. The Company does not have nor has it had since incorporation any employees. The Company has no subsidiaries or associated companies.

(b) BZW Investment Management is the promoter of the Company. No amount or benefit has been paid or given to BZW Investment Management as the promoter and none is intended to be paid or given.

(c) The Company is not, and has not since incorporation been engaged in any legal or arbitration proceedings which may have or have had a significant effect on the Company's financial position and no legal or arbitration proceedings are known to the Directors to be pending or threatened against the Company.

(d) Arthur Andersen & Co. have given and have not withdrawn their written consent to the issue of this document with the inclusion herein of their report set out above in the form and context in which it is included.

(e) Save as disclosed in this Part V, there has been no significant change in the trading or financial position of the Company since incorporation.

(f) It is the intention of the Directors to conduct the affairs of the Company so that it satisfies the requirements for qualification as an investment company under Section 266 of the Companies Act 1985 and the Company has given notice to the Registrar of Companies of its intention to carry on business as an investment company pursuant to that Section.

(g) The expenses of, and incidental to, the Offer and the Placing including underwriting, registration, listing fees, printing, advertising and distribution costs, legal and accounting fees, are estimated to amount to approximately £1.28 million and £0.66 million (exclusive of VAT) respectively and are payable by the Company.

(h) The net proceeds of the Offer and the Placing are estimated to be approximately £68.02 million and will be available for investment by the Company.

(i) BZW is a member of The Securities Association and is registered in England, registered No. 181866, with its registered office at Ebbsgate House, 2 Swan Lane, London EC4R 3TS.

(j) The Offer Price of 100p per Ordinary Share represents a premium of 90p over the nominal value of an Ordinary Share.

(k) Barclays Bank PLC, 33 Old Broad Street, London EC2P 2JE, are the bankers to the Company.

10. Documents Available for Inspection

Copies of the following documents will be available for inspection at the offices of Dickson Minto, W.S., Royal London House, 22/25 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1DS during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) for the period of 14 days from the date of this document:

- the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company;
- the Report of Arthur Andersen & Co. referred to above;
- the material contracts referred to in paragraph 6 above;
- the consent letter referred to in paragraph 9(d) above;
- a draft, subject to amendment, of the Trust Deed; and
- these Listing Particulars.

19th January, 1990.

PART VI

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

(a) The contract created by the acceptance of applications under the Offer will be conditional upon (i) the admission of the Ordinary Shares and the Index Loan Stock to the Official List of The Stock Exchange by the close of business on 15th February, 1990, (ii) the Offer for Subscription Agreement referred to in paragraph 5 in Part V becoming unconditional and not being terminated in accordance with its terms and (iii) the Placing Agreement referred to in paragraph 6(b) in Part V becoming unconditional and not being terminated in accordance with its terms.

(b) The right is reserved to present all cheques and banker's drafts for payment on receipt by Barclays Bank PLC and to retain renounceable letters of allotment and surplus application monies pending clearance of successful applicants' cheques. The right is also reserved to reject in whole or in part, or to scale down or limit, any application.

If any application is not accepted in whole, or is accepted in part only, or if any contract created by acceptance does not become unconditional, the application monies or, as the case may be, the balance thereof will be returned without interest by returning the applicant's cheque or banker's draft or by crossed cheque in favour of the first-named applicant, through the post at the risk of the person(s) entitled thereto. In the meantime, application monies will be retained by Barclays Bank PLC in a separate account.

(c) By completing and delivering an Application Form, you:

- offer to subscribe for the number of Ordinary Shares specified in your Application Form (or such lesser number for which your application is accepted) at the Offer Price and on the terms of, and subject to the conditions set out in this document, including these terms and conditions and subject to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company;
- agree that, in consideration of the Company agreeing that it will not prior to Wednesday, 15th February, 1990 offer for subscription any Ordinary Shares to any person other than by means of the procedures referred to in this document, your application may not be revoked until after Thursday, 15th February, 1990 and that this paragraph shall constitute a collateral contract between you and the Company which will become binding upon despatch by post to or, in the case of delivery by hand, on receipt by Barclays Bank PLC of your Application Form;
- warrant that the remittance accompanying your Application Form will be honoured on first presentation;

BZW CONVERTIBLE INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

NOTES ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

- Insert in Box 1 (in figures) the number of Ordinary Shares for which you are applying.

Applications must be for a minimum of 100 Ordinary Shares or in one of the following multiples:

- For 100 shares or more, but not more than 5,000 shares, in a multiple of 100 shares.
- For more than 5,000 shares, but not more than 50,000 shares, in a multiple of 1,000 shares.
- For more than 50,000 shares, in a multiple of 5,000 shares.

- Insert in Box 2 (in figures) the amount of your cheque or banker's draft.

This should be equal to the number of Ordinary Shares for which you are applying multiplied by the Offer Price of 100p.

- Insert your full name and address in BLOCK CAPITALS in Box 3.

- Sign and date the Application Form in Box 4.

The Application Form may be signed by another person on your behalf (and/or on behalf of any joint applicant(s)) if duly authorised so to do, but the power(s) of attorney (or a copy/ies) thereof duly certified by a solicitor (or form/s) of authority must be enclosed for inspection. A corporation should sign under the hand of a duly authorised official whose representative capacity must be stated.

- You must pin a single cheque or banker's draft to your completed Application Form in Box 5. Your cheque or banker's draft must be payable to "BZW Convertible Investment Trust PLC" for the amount payable on application inserted in Box 2 and should be crossed "Not Negotiable".

No receipt will be issued for this payment (which must be solely for this application).

Your cheque or banker's draft must be drawn in sterling on an account at a branch (which must be in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man) of a bank which is either a member of the London or Scottish Clearing Houses or which has arranged for its cheques and banker's drafts to be presented for payment through the clearing facilities provided for the members of those Clearing Houses and must bear the appropriate sorting code number in the top right-hand corner.

An application may be accompanied by a cheque drawn by a person other than the applicant(s), but any monies to be returned will be sent by crossed cheque in favour of the person named in Box 3.

A separate cheque or banker's draft must accompany each application.

- You may apply jointly with up to three other persons.

You must then arrange for the Application Form to be completed by or on behalf of each joint applicant. Their full names and addresses should be inserted in BLOCK CAPITALS in Box 6.

- Box 7 must be signed by or on behalf of each joint applicant (other than the first applicant who should complete Box 3 and sign Box 4).

You must send the completed Application Form by post, or deliver it by hand, to Barclays Bank PLC, New Issues, PO Box 123, Fleetway House, 25 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4HD, so as to arrive not later than 10.00 a.m. Tuesday, 30th January, 1990.

If you post your Application Form you are recommended to use first class post and to allow at least two business days for delivery.

(iv) agree that, in respect of those Ordinary Shares for which your application has been received and is not rejected, acceptance of your application shall be constituted, at the election of the Company, either (i) by notification to The Stock Exchange of the basis of allocation (in which case acceptance shall be on that basis) or (ii) by notification of acceptance thereof to Barclays Bank PLC;

(v) agree that any renounceable letter of allotment and any monies returnable to you may be retained by Barclays Bank PLC pending clearance of your remittance and that such monies will not bear interest in your favour;

(vi) authorise Barclays Bank PLC to send a fully paid renounceable letter of allotment in respect of the number of Ordinary Shares for which your application is accepted and/or respect of the number of Ordinary Shares for which your application is accepted and/or crossed cheque for any monies returnable, by post to the address of the person (or in the case of joint holders the first-named person) named as an applicant in the Application Form;

(vii) warrant that, if you sign the Application Form on behalf of somebody else or on behalf of a corporation, you have due authority to do so on behalf of that other person and undertake to enclose your power of attorney or a copy thereof certified by a solicitor where this is required by the "Notes on how to complete the Application Form";

(viii) agree that all applications, acceptances of application and contracts resulting therefrom under the Offer shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law and that you submit to the jurisdiction of the English courts;

(ix) confirm that in making such application you are not relying on any information or representation in relation to the Company other than those contained in this document and accordingly you agree that no person responsible solely or jointly for this document or any part thereof shall have any liability for any such other information or representation;

(x) authorise Barclays Bank PLC or BZW or any person authorised by Barclays Bank PLC or by BZW, as your agent, to do all things necessary to effect registration of any Ordinary Shares subscribed by you into your name(s) or into the name(s) of any person(s) in whose favour the entitlement to any such Ordinary Shares has been renounced and authorise any representative of Barclays Bank PLC or of BZW to execute any renounceable letter of allotment or other document required therefor;

(xi) agree that, having had the opportunity to read this document, you shall be deemed to have had notice of all information and representations concerning the Company contained therein;

(xii) confirm that you have reviewed the restrictions contained in paragraph (e) below and warrant as provided therein;

(xiii) agree that all documents and cheques sent by post, by or on behalf of the Company or BZW will be sent at the risk of the person(s) entitled thereto under the Offer; and

(xiv) confirm that you have read and complied with paragraph (d) below.

(d) No person receiving a copy of this document or an Application Form in any territory other than the United Kingdom may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him, nor should he in any event use such Application Form unless, in the relevant territory, such an invitation or offer could lawfully be made to him or such Application Form could lawfully be used without contravention of any registration or other legal requirements. It is the responsibility of any person outside the United Kingdom wishing to make an application hereunder to satisfy himself as to full observance of the laws of any relevant territory in connection therewith, including obtaining any requisite governmental or other consents, observing any other formalities required to be observed in such territory and paying any issue, transfer or other taxes required to be paid in such territory.

(e) The Ordinary Shares have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933 (as amended). The Ordinary Shares may not be offered, sold, renounced, transferred or delivered, directly or indirectly, in the United States or to any US Person. Persons subscribing for Ordinary Shares (including renouncees submitting renounceable letters of allotment for registration) shall be deemed to represent and warrant to the Company that they are not US Persons and that they are not subscribing for such Ordinary Shares for the account of any US Person and will not offer, sell, renounce, transfer or deliver, directly or indirectly, such Ordinary Shares in the United States or to any US Person. As used herein, "United States" means the United States of America (including each of the States and the District of Columbia), its territories or possessions or other areas subject to its jurisdiction and "US Person" means any person who is a citizen or resident of the United States, a corporation, partnership or other entity created or organised in or under the laws of the United States or an estate or trust which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of the source of its income.

(f) The basis of allocation will be determined by BZW in consultation with the Directors. The right is reserved notwithstanding the basis so determined to reject in whole or in part and/or scale down any application. The right is reserved to treat as valid any application not in all respects completed in accordance with the instructions accompanying the Application Form.

Availability of Listing Particulars

Copies of this document and the Application Form are available from The Company Announcements Office, The Stock Exchange, 45 Finsbury Square, London EC2N 1HP for two business days following the date of publication of this document and until the Offer closes from the registered office of the Company and from:

Barclays de Zotte Weid Limited
Ebbsgate House
2 Swan Lane
London EC4R 3TS

Barclays Bank PLC
New Issues
PO Box 123
Fleetway House
25 Farringdon Street
London EC4A 4HD

19th January, 1990.

Offer for subscription sponsored by Barclays de Zotte Weid Limited of Ordinary Shares, at 100p per share, payable in full on application.

APPLICATION FORM

IMPORTANT: BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM YOU SHOULD READ THE LISTING PARTICULARS AND THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES.

ALL APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE BOXES 1 TO 5

I/we offer to subscribe for	see note 1
Ordinary Shares	1
and I/we attach a cheque or banker's draft for the amount payable of	see note 2
£	2

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

MR., MRS., MISS OR TITLE	FORENAMES (IN FULL)	see note 3
SURNAME		3
ADDRESS (IN FULL)		
	POSTCODE	
DATED	SIGNATURE	see note 4
1990		4

☐ PIN YOUR CHEQUE OR BANKER'S DRAFT HERE FOR THE EXACT AMOUNT SHOWN IN BOX 2 MADE PAYABLE TO "BZW CONVERTIBLE INVESTMENT TRUST PLC" AND CROSSED "NOT NEGOTIABLE"

BOXES 4 AND 7 MUST BE COMPLETED ONLY BY THE JOINT APPLICANTS (see notes 6 and 7)

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

MR., MRS., MISS OR TITLE	MR., MRS., MISS OR TITLE	MR., MRS., MISS OR TITLE	6
FORENAMES (IN FULL)	FORENAMES (IN FULL)	FORENAMES (IN FULL)	
SURNAME	SURNAME	SURNAME	
ADDRESS (IN FULL)	ADDRESS (IN FULL)	ADDRESS (IN FULL)	
POSTCODE	POSTCODE	POSTCODE	
SIGNATURE	SIGNATURE	SIGNATURE	7

For Official Use Only

I. ALLOTMENT NUMBER	iv. £ AMOUNT RECEIVED
ii. ORDINARY SHARES ALLOTTED	v. £ AMOUNT PAYABLE
iii. CHEQUE NUMBER	vi. £ AMOUNT RETURNED

هذا من الأصل

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check it against the daily dividend (figure) if it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game cards appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Time Products	Drumery Stores	
2	Petroleum	Oil/Gas	
3	Wynham Eng	Industrial S-Z	
4	AB Eng	Electricals	
5	Leas (John J)	Foods	
6	Chas (Wm)	Motor/Aircraft	
7	Clayton	Property	
8	Triple Lloyd	Industrial S-Z	
9	Honda Motor	Motor/Aircraft	
10	Black (JAC)	Newsprint/Pub	
11	Allied Ltd	Property	
12	Midle Grp	Industrial L-R	
13	Stirling Ind	Industrial S-Z	
14	Rassano	Industrial L-R	
15	Fisons (nt)	Industrial E-K	
16	Shell (nt)	Oil/Gas	
17	New Intl	Newsprint/Pub	
18	Yorkshire Chem	Chemicals/Fab	
19	Marshall Rego	Electricals	
20	Concorde	Industrial A-D	
21	Young 'A'	Breweries	
22	Blick	Electricals	
23	Brown (N)	Drumery Stores	
24	Bulmer (N P)	Breweries	
25	Clint Grp	Chemicals/Fab	
26	Hampson Ind	Industrial E-K	
27	NTC Group	Industrial L-R	
28	Bank of Ireland	Bank/Finance	
29	Powertech	Industrial L-R	
30	Polytype	Industrial L-R	
31	Optical & Med	Industrial L-R	
32	Courts Foresters	Drumery Stores	
33	Ross	Electricals	
34	Cable Wireless (nt)	Electricals	
35	Owners Abroad	Leisure	
36	Buckingham Intl	Leisure	
37	Phoenix Timber	Building/Roads	
38	Debenhams Towns	Property	
39	AAF Int	Industrial A-D	
40	Sherraton Sec	Property	
41	Britannia Security	Electricals	
42	Canons St	Industrial A-D	
43	Brison	Industrial A-D	
44	Times Newspaper Ltd	Daily News	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock no.	Company	Price	Chg	Int	Div	Yield
1000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Stock no.	Company	Price	Chg	Int	Div	Yield
1001	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock no.	Company	Price	Chg	Int	Div	Yield
1002	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock no.	Company	Price	Chg	Int	Div	Yield
1003	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

UNDATED

Stock no.	Company	Price	Chg	Int	Div	Yield
1004	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDEX-LINKED

Stock no.	Company	Price	Chg	Int	Div	Yield
1005	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

Stock no.	Company	Price	Chg	Int	Div	Yield
1006	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 15. Dealings end January 26. Settlement day January 29. Settlement day February 5.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (nt) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
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2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
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Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
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Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
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Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
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Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
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Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
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Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Portfolio PLATINUM

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DAILY DIVIDEND
£2,000
Claims required for +50 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Time Products	Drumery Stores	
2	Petroleum	Oil/Gas	
3	Wynham Eng	Industrial S-Z	
4	AB Eng	Electricals	
5	Leas (John J)	Foods	
6	Chas (Wm)	Motor/Aircraft	
7	Clayton	Property	
8	Triple Lloyd	Industrial S-Z	
9	Honda Motor	Motor/Aircraft	
10	Black (JAC)	Newsprint/Pub	
11	Allied Ltd	Property	
12	Midle Grp	Industrial L-R	
13	Stirling Ind	Industrial S-Z	
14	Rassano	Industrial L-R	
15	Fisons (nt)	Industrial E-K	
16	Shell (nt)	Oil/Gas	
17	New Intl	Newsprint/Pub	
18	Yorkshire Chem	Chemicals/Fab	
19	Marshall Rego	Electricals	
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2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
2,500,000	British Fund	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

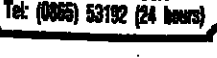
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EDUCATION

Edited by David Tytler

Schools, too often reluctant to tackle dyslexia in pupils, may unwittingly be helping to worsen it. Douglas Broom reports on a new campaign

The long-running conflict between the dyslexia lobby and the education establishment flared into open war last week with a claim that fashionable teaching methods were actually creating dyslexics.

At the launch of the national Dyslexia Awareness Campaign, Michael Sterne, executive director of the British Dyslexia Association, said schools could be doing more harm than they knew. In an outspoken attack on the National Curriculum, he said its apparent endorsement of the fashionable method of teaching children to read by showing them whole words was at the root of the problem.

Primary schools have switched from the traditional approach to reading, which began with pupils learning letters and their sounds before combining them to form words. The present method is known as "look, say" in which children are taught whole words. Only later do they move to the idea that letters have their own sounds.

Sterne and his fellow activists have never been frightened to criticize the education system's shortcomings. They have argued for years that teachers have ignored dyslexia — and they have drawn support from some prominent figures who suffered from dyslexia as children, including the former Cabinet Minister Michael Heseltine, the former world racing champion Jackie Stewart and the actress Beryl Reid.

The association estimates that 350,000 children in Britain's schools are dyslexic. Among the population at large, the figure is almost 2.5 million, it says.

But this new attack is different because it challenges some of teachers' most cherished beliefs about the way children should be taught to read. So confident are



Famous faces helping to launch the national Dyslexia Awareness Campaign in London: Richard Rogers, Beryl Reid, Duncan Goodhew, Susan Hampshire and Angharad Rees

Finding the right words

the campaigners of the weight of evidence behind their criticisms that Sterne challenges teachers to justify their new-found allegiance to "look-say".

He says: "The teaching of reading should include teaching the way in which letters and letter combinations correspond with sounds — known as the alphabetic principle. There is not, to my knowledge, a single research study to support the view that the alphabetic principle should not be taught. On the contrary, there is overwhelming evidence that it should," Sterne says parents have

a key role in preventing their children from succumbing to dyslexia by playing simple word games at the toddler stage.

"Children need to see the connection between letters and the sounds they make," he explains. "All the research shows that it is precisely this that children with dyslexia cannot do. This difficulty in processing the sounds of letters and eventually of words is at the root of the problem for up to 90 per cent of children who have difficulty learning to read, and that includes almost all of those with dyslexia."

"We have to encourage children to analyse the sounds of letters and words before they learn to read, so that they make the connection between what they read and what they see on the page."

Sterne believes that simple word games, rhymes and word play could reduce the number of children with severe learning difficulties from between 10 and 15 per cent of the school population to less than 1 per cent.

Margaret Snowling, principal of the National Hospital's College of Speech Science in London, says there is evidence that children

whose awareness of sound is acute are better readers. Tests showed that dyslexic children, who found it hard to learn to read, could not distinguish and identify sounds in speech.

"There is no doubt that early sound awareness leads to early reading skill," she says. "We have evidence that dyslexics are much worse at sound categorization skills than you would expect from their IQ."

A constant theme of those urging greater awareness of the needs of dyslexic sufferers is that dyslexic does not mean dumb.

Sufferers included Albert Einstein, Lewis Carroll and George Washington. Snowling says: "When a child learns to read the word 'bun', he can then make the connection that bus and bug will have the same letter at the start because they make the same sound. There is also research which shows that three-year-olds' knowledge of nursery rhymes is a good predictor of their likely reading skills."

The use of rhymes can be important. A toddler may learn to say the "b" part of the word "boat" and by rhyming it with other words can start to discern

the pattern of sounds in the language. Dyslexic children, unable instinctively to put a sound to a symbol, often place an over-reliance on rules. Snowling says: "The Government undergraders who agreed to work with psychologists demonstrated the point by reading the word 'glove' as 'glave', applying rigidly the same rule that would enable her to pronounce 'home' or 'Hove'."

Snowling cautions that the approach now being advocated will not help all potentially dyslexic children. In some families, the condition seems hereditary, which may be linked to inherited physiological or neurological problems. But she believes that most sufferers could have avoided the condition by sharpening their ability to distinguish between sounds as toddlers.

For those already struggling to cope with dyslexia, Sterne and Snowling are agreed that the only solution is better teacher training. Of 400,000 state school teachers in England and Wales, fewer than 1,500 have special training in dyslexia.

"Students are lucky if one day in a four-year course is devoted to the topic of dyslexia," Sterne says. "The Government treats the issue of literacy as meaning only adult literacy."

The National Curriculum, he believes, devotes far too little attention to teaching children the skills of "decoding" words, and writing and spelling.

All of which points to the need for Dyslexia Awareness Week, which starts tomorrow. Charlotte Griffiths, the campaign manager, says: "People in the street have certainly heard of dyslexia. We have to get over to them the suffering and the loss of self-esteem dyslexia brings — and what we can do about it."

arises from shifting curricular power so much toward the republics. Schools have been almost officially encouraged to be seed-beds of nationalism.

So much for a possible agenda for next May's symposium. Provisionally, that is. If four weeks have been enough to overturn regimes in eastern Europe, what changes may four months bring further east? Will the Soviet educational reforms then be past history? Will we slide past each other after all?

John White
The author is Reader in Education at the London Institute of Education.

Soviet lesson Britain seems to be ignoring

"Perhaps we shall meet in the middle?" said the Soviet professor. "Unless we slide past each other," someone from our side remarked.

We were in Moscow, discussing a symposium on what is taught in schools, which the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences and the Institute of Education are holding in London in May.

Over the past two years, Britain has taken control of the curriculum in England and Wales out of the hands of local education authorities and schools and introduced a National Curriculum based on 10 foundation subjects with a

centralized system of assessment.

The subjects are almost identical to those in the Soviet curriculum under Stalin. If there is anything in the Education Reform Act about harnessing these subjects to the ideals of democracy and personal autonomy rather than to an oriental tyranny, it must have passed me by.

Over the same period, the Soviet Union has been busy dismantling its over-centralized and authoritarian system

— at least on paper. Only 40 per cent of the school curriculum will be common to the whole country; 60 per cent is to be left to the national republics.

The only variation was that children could be taught union-wide syllabuses in their own language, with maybe a little local history and geography. Republics will provide extensive courses in national art, literature and social studies.

Decentralization stretches down to the school. A range of courses will be provided for students of 14-plus, and 15 per cent of the timetable will be left at the school's disposal for meeting individual needs. Flexibility, humanization and decentralization are the keywords.

The focus is on developing the individual's personality and teaching methods will be changed accordingly. In Britain, the National Curriculum is based solely on traditional

school subjects; in the Soviet Union, the old subject-centred curriculum is gone.

Apart from the Russian language and mathematics, the union-wide core consists of courses in natural sciences and social studies. The latter draws on history, philosophy, economics, politics, ethics and law, and is devoted to the development of reason but also to the education of emotions and values.

Not only are the humanities

to be given higher status, but the new government policy calls for a change in the relationships between teachers and pupils away from authoritarianism toward co-operation.

While British teachers are being weighed down by the detailed requirements of subject-specific assessment, their Soviet colleagues are being encouraged to have more autonomy in setting goals and choosing methods. They will participate with parents and the local

community in the democratic running of the school through the school council.

The contrast between British and Soviet policies could hardly be starker. How far either of them will get beyond paper is uncertain. It is accepted in Britain that we have long needed national guidelines, but many teachers find the complex national assessment scheme in the National Curriculum unworkable.

A problem on the Soviet side

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RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF STAFF?

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Manchester strikes anti-apartheid stance



David Miller

An important turn has been taken in Britain's troubled relationship with the anti-apartheid sporting campaign, with the publication by the Manchester Olympic Bids Committee (MOBC) of a formal document of protest against apartheid and, by implication, also partially against the British Government.

The document, drawn up in conjunction with Manchester City Council, has been released just in time: a few days before Manchester attempts to win its claim as an Olympic host city candidate for 1996 during the Commonwealth Games beginning here on Wednesday.

Until this moment, many African and Caribbean members of the Commonwealth

Zimbabwe two days ago and were almost immediately deleted by all sources.

Manchester's radical attitude, given the association of a bidding city with its national Olympic committee, will do much to improve Britain's hitherto equivocal attitude on anti-apartheid issues in sport.

The document states: "The MOBC and Manchester City Council (MCC) affirm their total condemnation of apartheid, which offends both policy and practice within the city."

That the suspension of sporting links with South Africa until the abolition of apartheid is considered internationally essential, and that MOBC and MCC denounce all attempts to organize sporting contact (such as the England tour led by Gattling).

The MOBC and MCC endorse the declaration by the International Olympic Committee that apartheid violates the Olympic Charter.

In future, MOBC/MCC will refuse to enter into any sporting contact with South Africa or South Africans; will refuse to allow individuals or teams originating in South Africa to compete in events prior to 1996 if these Games should be awarded to Manchester; will include the statement in all official documents, including programmes for the Games; will use their best endeavours to ensure that the position of the British Government and the British Olympic Association are in line with the spirit of international agreements, especially those by the European Commission and the Commonwealth; will invite

South Africa's non-racial sporting bodies to attend the Games.

The declaration is being circulated throughout the world by every British embassy, every IOC member, every national Olympic committee and every international sports federation.

Talks with IOC members here and in Melbourne during the past week, when they were attending the Australian Open tennis championships, suggest that the campaign for hosting the centenary Games is becoming more open than ever. Those who support Athens on sentimental and historic grounds sense that their numbers are diminishing as doubts about Athens grow.

The Greek cause was not helped by an extraordinary outburst at the end of last year

during a meeting of the IOC executive board. During discussions on the proposed contract which all candidate cities must sign before the voting takes place, Lambis Nikolaidis, chairman of the Greek Olympic Committee as well as an IOC member, shouted that he would never sign such a contract were this not the centenary of the Games.

These present were astonished by his attitude, which seemed to suggest that, because it was the centenary, the Greeks should not be pressed into signing something they would find difficult to uphold.

Yet, the intention of the IOC's new, tougher contract is precisely to ensure that promises made before the voting do not evaporate in the period

leading up to the staging of the Games.

In my opinion, if Athens is to win the vote in Tokyo next September it will do so on the first count because, thereafter, anyone who did not vote for Athens is going to place their vote elsewhere in subsequent rounds.

Melbourne and Manchester are beginning to acquire a more serious consideration as worthy candidates because of the doubts about Athens, and because many people question whether the Olympic Games should return so soon to North America, to either Atlanta or Toronto. Melbourne's bid, in particular, is gathering momentum, and Manchester will need to accelerate its efforts in the coming months if it is going to survive the first rounds of voting.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES: AS COE, THE BRITISH ATHLETE OF THE EIGHTIES, BOWS OUT, HIS SUCCESSOR IN THE NINETIES IS ITCHING TO GO

IAAF calls for return of banned Johnson

By David Powell

Primo Nebiolo, president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, yesterday called for Ben Johnson, the Canadian sprinter, to return to international competition when his two-year suspension ends in September.

Johnson was stripped by the IAAF council meeting of his world records and the 1987 world championships 100 metres gold medal.

Nebiolo said: "We wish Johnson to return because we have always followed his activities with great attention."

He added that a decision on Johnson's return would depend on the Canadian Amateur Athletic Federation after the IAAF ban expires in September: it was imposed after Johnson had tested positive for anabolic steroids at the 1988 Olympic Games.

If the Canadians will agree to give him permission, we would be very happy to see Johnson compete tomorrow," Nebiolo said.

All people want to get something to become very famous, but sometimes they make mistakes. One mistake is doping. We will continue the war against doping. In particular, we want to educate young people that they must not take drugs."

Johnson testified under oath last June that he started using steroids in 1981, and was taking them in 1981 when he ran in the Rome world championships.

After his confession, the IAAF imposed tougher rules against doping, including worldwide random testing out of competition for steroids and their masking agents.

The 23-member IAAF council decided to erase Johnson's three world records, in the 100 metres, and the indoor 50 and 60 metres, as well as the women's indoor 50 metres mark held by another Canadian, Angela Isaacs.

Both Johnson and Isaacs have admitted taking banned drugs since 1981 and 1979, respectively.

The IAAF also amended the result of the 100 metres in the 1987 world championships in Rome, listing the American, Carl Lewis, as the winner in 9.93sec.

Johnson was second in 10.08sec, and Linford Christie, of Britain, third in 10.45sec. Johnson set the world record of 9.83sec at the world championships and passed a drug test there.

The IAAF ruling came amid reports that athletics officials were worried they might be sued by Johnson, who had publicly vowed to compete in the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona.

Nebiolo also expressed concern over the drastic political changes in eastern Europe, and said the IAAF was willing to extend aid to the countries.

SEIOLU: The former head of the Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee (SLOOC) wrote in a newspaper that Johnson had taken the anabolic steroid, stanozolol, up to one month before the 1988 Olympics (Agencies).

Park Seik-jung told Johnson knew almost none of the doping centres in the world was able to detect stanozolol, he was taking, since the detection method for that particular anabolic steroid was discovered only in January 1988.

Park said that if the detection method had not been found in time, Johnson would still be the world record-holder.

Walter, Doug Dailey, the England manager, had decided to withdraw Scott O'Brien, who had been unused by the night from London and then developed a persistent sore throat.

Wayne Randle was brought in to replace him and, led by Chris Boardman, the multi-British champion, and with Ben Luckwell and Peter Longbottom in attendance, the team recorded the fastest time of 31min 39sec for the "short" course of 25 kilometres.

The important thing for the quartet was that they beat the favoured and determined New Zealand team by 45 seconds.

Confident Backley sets his sights on world record throw

By David Powell

Athletics Correspondent

Auckland

Steve Backley sat two chairs away from Sebastian Coe yesterday but was itching to get into the hot seat. Backley started work early as Britain's likely athlete of the 1990s, with an impressive first summer in the senior ranks last year, now Coe, the British athlete of the 1980s, is doing his overtime in the new decade.

Coe bids farewell to competition here 12 days from now and is the centre of attention in the countdown to the Commonwealth Games, which start on Wednesday. Backley, by contrast, is competing in his first international championship and, relaxed as Coe has appeared in preparation for his middle distance double attempt, it was the European and World Cup javelin winner who was the model of composure yesterday.

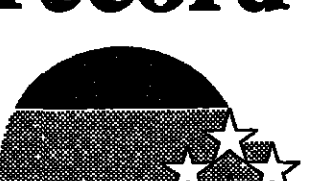
Backley, it is assumed, will win his event almost to the minute that Coe bows out. His confidence is such that, unlike Coe, he has been open about his training performance. What he said yesterday was a forewarning of a world record.

"My best in training before last season was 81 metres and when I was in Los Angeles for two weeks training recently, I was doing 82 to 83 metres regularly," Backley said. "I always look for a five to six-metre improvement between training and competition and, hopefully, I will do that again."

That would take him beyond the world record of 87.66 metres held by Jan Zelezny, of Czechoslovakia. Backley's best is 85.90 metres.

The record which Peter Elliott set in Hamilton last week was short-lived. He had broken Peter Snell's New Zealand all-time mark but one of the lesser-known Kenyans, William Kiprotich, had beaten him.

Elliott maintained his unbeaten record in warm-up races (four if one includes his Durham cross-country win over Steve



Cram), producing a last lap of 53sec to win the 1,500 metres in 3min 36.7sec. Who would dare call him a carthorse now?

"I had been working with a sprint coach," Elliott said. "At one time I thought I could only run from the front, but not any more."

Coe, too, is unbeaten, though from only two races. "I've got several races coming up so there is no point in chasing races at this stage," he said.

Was he disappointed that he had not been chosen to carry the England flag at the opening ceremony? "I hope I have a little more luck getting votes in politics than I have had in athletics," the man who was also passed over for the Seoul Olympics said.

The Mount Smart stadium announcer made the mistake of questioning whether anyone would be brave enough to choose between John Regis or Linford Christie for the Commonwealth 200 metres title. After watching Christie's slightly wobbly start, the announcer called on Regis for the 100 metres and, bearing in mind his standing in world sprinting, it was an understandable error to have assumed Christie is selected for the 200 metres.

He is not. He was third in the trial and the disciplinary place went to Regis, the world indoor champion and European Cup winner. Christie had no need to run the 200 metres here but was "really motivated" to show he would be missed.

It was a case of switching the mind back on," said the Scot, who had not raced since September. His 1min 47.87sec was 0.29sec slower than Brian Whitte, his countryman, had broken in the opening 800 metres.

Elliott maintained his unbeaten record in warm-up races (four if one includes his Durham cross-country win over Steve

McColgan's 3min 43.14sec, 3,000 metres in Sydney just over a week ago compared only marginally better than Hunter's 3,000 metres. Hunter has run only one 10,000 metres in the last four years, in the 31min 30sec performance which would probably be needed to trouble McColgan.

The evidence grows stronger that Liz McColgan may have to contend with a challenge to the 10,000 metres supremacy she has held over Britons in the last four years. Not only did Jill Hunter follow up her cross-country win in Durham three weeks ago with a 15min 19.85sec 5,000 metres here on Saturday, but the following day Wendy Shi announced that she felt capable of beating 32 minutes.

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The Commonwealth Games Council for England confirmed that it had acted accordingly, and Ramsamy said: "It is unfortunate but the constitution does not allow for such a thing (England's expulsion). Now that

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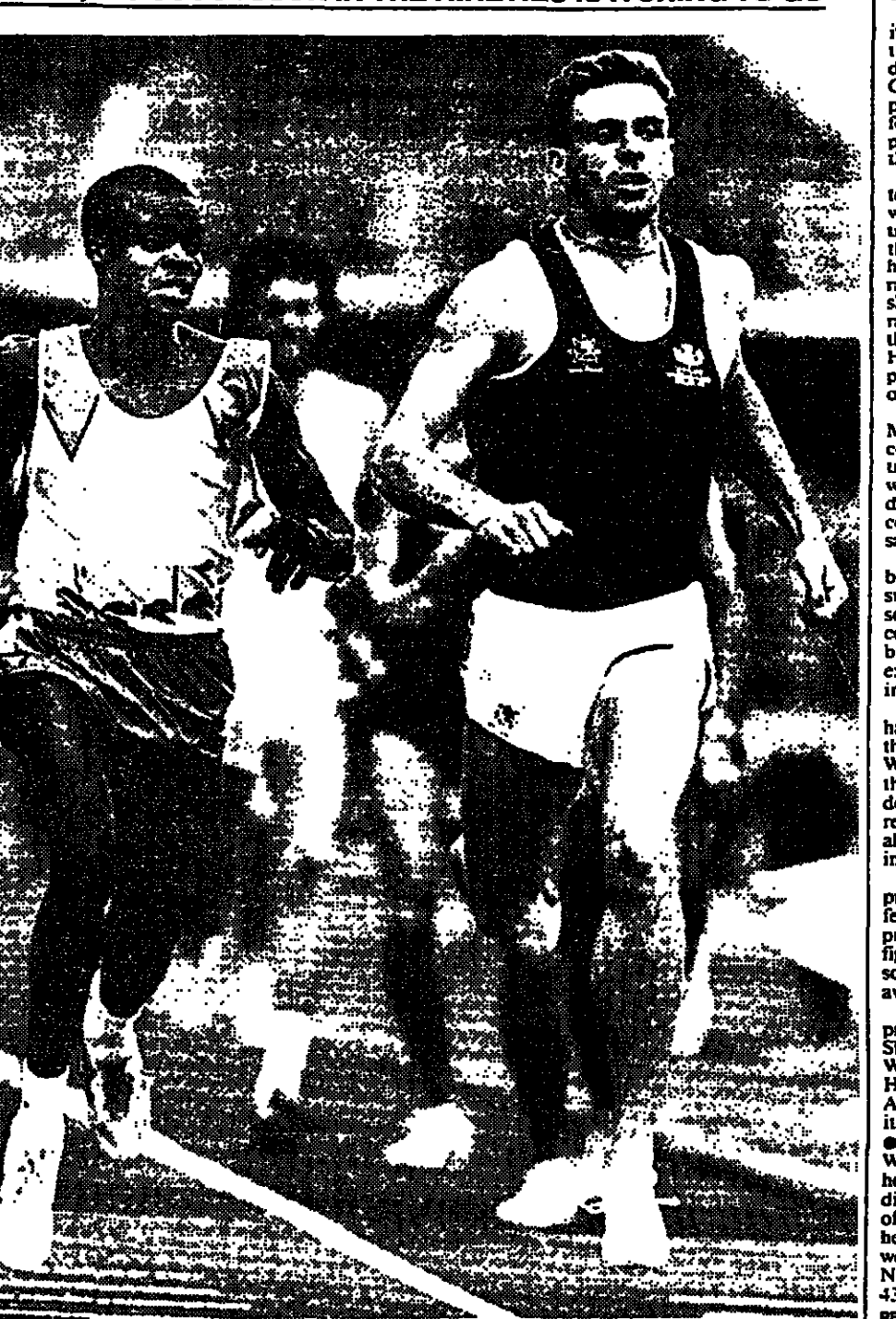
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A winning return: McKean, of Scotland, edges out Kirochi, of Kenya, in Auckland yesterday

Ramsamy dismisses threats of disruption to the Games

By David Powell

A boycott by the black African countries, or a resolution demanding England be expelled from the Commonwealth Games, was discounted yesterday by Sam Ramsamy, the chairman of the South African Non Racial Olympic Committee (SANROC).

Tommy Shiroke, the president of the Zimbabwe Olympic committee, had called on Friday for the Federation "to show a bit of muscle" in response to the unofficial England cricket tour of South Africa. Ramsamy arrived yesterday in Auckland, where the Games began on Wednesday, to say: "There is no possibility of a boycott."

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Decision to continue downhill is attacked

From Ray Robinson

Kitzbühel

After days of deliberation, arguments and hostility, the fifth annual Hahnenkamm competition for World Cup downhill racing, scheduled on Saturday, the only source of concern was the race itself, which will be remembered not by the results but by the decision to hold the race at all.

Saturday's race did not follow the line of the traditional course, but instead followed a new route, the Hahnenkamm jump, and Steinhilf. The race officials decided on the running of two shorter races, starting at the women's super G piste and rejoining the men's downhill course for the final third of the traditional route. The combined times of the two runs decided the winner.

The revised race format has its critics, many who feel that the Kitzbühel decision sets a dangerous precedent for World Cup downhill racing. Although part of the FIS rules, the two-run format has never been implemented or encouraged before the decision in Kitzbühel.

The feeling that the decision to run the race had more to do with money and power than tradition is shared by the racers themselves, many of whom have voiced their opinion that the race in its dual-run format is a sham downhill. Although most racers fear the traditional route, they realize that a win on the Hahnenkamm course is a positive of being the best skier on earth.

Last year's winner, Daniel Mahrer, of Switzerland, had contested his entire summer training programme around winning the elusive Kitzbühel double. A win on this year's course, he said, "would not satisfy that ambition."

Mano Gensdell, of Luxembourg, believes that the lack of snow this season has created some of the most dangerous conditions ever and the Kitzbühel decision showed "the extent to which the sport will go in the name of money."

The running of the dual event has even deeper implications for the longer-term future of the World Cup. Resorts now denied the right to a World Cup downhill will flood the FIS with requests. If a dual run was allowed in Kitzbühel, why not in their resort?

All this is good news for the pro-circuit lobby. There is a feeling emerging rapidly that a professional circuit, with a five-figure prize-money could entice some of the world's best racers away from the World Cup.

The 1990 Kitzbühel compromise was won by Alex Stenlund, of Norway, his first World Cup "downhill" victory. Helmut Hofer, of Austria, finished in second position, followed by Zurburgen.

WORLD CUP SLALOM: A men's World Cup slalom race held here yesterday in foggy conditions on a piste made entirely of snow which has been helicoptered in over the past week, was won by Rudolf Nierlich, of Austria, in 1min 43.51sec (Ray Robinson writes).

RESULTS: 1. R Nierlich (Austria), 1:43.51; 2. R Stenlund (Norway), 1:44.22; 3. R Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 4. R Zurburgen (Switzerland), 1:45.18; 5. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 6. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 7. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 8. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 9. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 10. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 11. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 12. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 13. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 14. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 15. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 16. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 17. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 18. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 19. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 20. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 21. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 22. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 23. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 24. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 25. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 26. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 27. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 28. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 29. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 30. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 31. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 32. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 33. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 34. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 35. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 36. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 37. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 38. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 39. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 40. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 41. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 42. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 43. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 44. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 45. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 46. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 47. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 48. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 49. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 50. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 51. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 52. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 53. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 54. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 55. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 56. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 57. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 58. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 59. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 60. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 61. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 62. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 63. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 64. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 65. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 66. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 67. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 68. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 69. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 70. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 71. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 72. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 73. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 74. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 75. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 76. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 77. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 78. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 79. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 80. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 81. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 82. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 83. R P. Hofer (Austria), 1:45.18; 84. R P

Brabazon poised to collect again

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

An appealing bet at Leicester today is Brabazon, who is named to win the Stoney Novices Hurdle in the experienced hands of Steve Smith. Brabazon, who has been a more comfortable one on River Ceirog at Kempton on Saturday.

At Market Rasen nine days ago, Brabazon initiated a double for Smith and Mark Tompkins when he won a three-mile handicap hurdle by four lengths under top weight.

So today's distance is clearly no problem for him and nor should the ground, which was

also good to soft on that occasion. The main question mark is whether he can cope with the Uttroxtor winner invasion at level weights, besides giving weight to Junior Parker and How Majestic, who have both run well to finish second recently behind Danny Harbord and Miss Muck, at Chetow and Newton Abbot.

I firmly believe that he can because prior to winning on the Lincolnshire track Brabazon had twice performed well on grade one courses this season, the first when he was a close third at Ascot behind Tom Troubadour and Remittance Man and again when he filled the same slot behind

Babil and Zamil at Newbury. The form of those races over 2½ miles looks better than that boasted by Brabazon's principal rivals, added to which he looks ever more effective over today's longer trip.

The Croxton Park Novices Hurdle can go to Peter Hedger's consistent filly Lissabane Lass, whose experience of jumping at racing pace should stand her in good stead when faced by Cowley, St Elmo's Fire and Daunou, three promising recruits from the Flat, not to mention Flight Hill who caught the eye at Wincanton recently.

Prior to opening her account over today's course and distance 13 days ago, Lissabane Lass had finished a good second at Taunton to Regal Lake, who has been a creditable runner-up recently in races won by such accomplished performers as Sudden Victory and Royal Square. So there is nothing wrong with Lissabane Lass's form.

No prizes will be awarded for suggesting that Cash Is King ought to extend Jenny Pitman's tremendous recent run (File Concord was her 27th winner in the last five weeks at Kempton on Saturday) by landing the first division of the Cottesmore Novices Chase.

After winning first time out over hurdles at Kempton, Cash Is King was mighty impressive when scoring next time, but over fences at Plumpton.

The second division can go to the Folkestone winner Western Legend, who may have the most to fear from Pendermoss.

On the corresponding occasion a year ago, Graham McCourt landed a double at Edburgh. Now I expect the much-travelled Wantage-based jockey, who tallies for the season rose to 39 on Saturday when James May Boy scored in style at Kempton, to land another on Nigel Tinkler's pair Question Of Degree (1.15) and Beau Rolando (3.45).

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Nick The Brief (Martin Lynch) clears the last on his way to victory over Bishops Yarn at Haydock

Desert Orchid working towards Sandown return

By George Rae

David Elsworth is becoming increasingly confident of Desert Orchid being fit for the Agia Diamond Chase (formerly the Chesham Chase) at Sandown Park on Saturday week.

The grey has been coughing since winning a third King George VI Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day but now seems to have turned the corner. "He worked on Saturday and at the moment looks like getting to Sandown," Elsworth said yesterday.

Desert Orchid's recovery seems to be the gradual return to health of Elsworth's string. "I had three runners on Saturday and I was satisfied with all of them," he said. "But not all the horses are right just yet. Floyd and Cavies Crown are still coughing away."

However, with the signs encouraging Elsworth is beginning to plan ahead again. Major inquiry, the ante-post favourite for the Triumph Hurdle, will run in Cheltenham on Saturday, while the Hennessy winner Ghofar is being lined up for the Racing Post Chase at Kempton on February 24.

Barnbrook, who missed a recent Ascot engagement because of a minor infection, is being lined up for the Trainers' Cup at Sandown on Saturday.

The runner-up, Bishops Yarn, who was overdrawn at Sandown, is being lined up for the Marsh Chase at Haydock Park on Saturday.

"But Nick The Brief's main objective is the Kim Muir or the Ritz Cup Trophy at Cheltenham," said trainer John Upwood. "He's a bit of a character but he's a horse who needs another year."

Martin Pipe's chance of landing the \$25,000 bonus offered by the Vasee Cup at Sandown is being eyed by the Vasee Cup at Sandown.

Graham Bradley completed an 88-1 double on Mrs Mack and Bank View. Mrs Mack won the Marsh Chase at Haydock Park on Saturday.

The stewards inquired into the apparent improvement of Bank View, who had finished twelfth in the L'Oréal Hurdle at Newbury. They accepted trainer Nigel Tinkler's explanation that the horse was difficult to train and he was surprised at Saturday's win.

After winning the Trim Handicap Chase at Navan on Saturday with Bifidifid, trainer John Upwood confirmed that the horse was a definite runner for the Charterhouse Mercantile Chase at Cheltenham on Saturday.

Neil Graham, former assistant to Dick Hern, was with the first runner as a trainer in his own right when Silken Lanes scored at Southwell's all-weather meeting.

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LEICESTER

Selections By Mandarin

- 1.00 Cash Is King
- 2.00 Lissabane Lass
- 3.00 Western Legend
- 3.00 Randolph Crescent
- 3.30 BRABAZON (nap)
- 4.00 Mists Of Time

Michael Seely's selection: 2.00 St. Elmo's Fire.

Going: good to soft (hurdles); good (chase)

1.0 COTTESMORE NOVICES CHASE (Div 1: £2,588; 2m 4f) (11 runners)

- 1 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 2 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 3 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 4 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 5 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 6 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
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- 10 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 11 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4

BETTING: 6-11 Western Legend, 11-4 Cash Is King, 5-1 Pendermoss, 8-1 Mangrove, 12-1 Plastic Spaceman, 10-1 Babil, 10-1 Beau Rolando, 20-1 others.

1.00 CASH IS KING

CASH IS KING is a useful chaser who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 LISSABANE LASS

LISSABANE LASS is a consistent performer who has been in good form since her last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. She is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 WESTERN LEGEND

WESTERN LEGEND is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 RANDOLPH CRESCENT

RANDOLPH CRESCENT is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 BRABAZON (nap)

BRABAZON is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 MISTS OF TIME

MISTS OF TIME is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 ST. ELMO'S FIRE

ST. ELMO'S FIRE is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 BILLY BOY

BILLY BOY is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 FRENCH AGGRESSION

FRENCH AGGRESSION is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 HARPER HERRING

HARPER HERRING is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 BRILLIANT WISH

BRILLIANT WISH is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 EASTERN WAY

EASTERN WAY is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 FINE LAD

FINE LAD is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 STAG HUNTER

STAG HUNTER is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 GOLD PRINCE

GOLD PRINCE is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 KALIBROSCOPE

KALIBROSCOPE is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 MARKEDEN

MARKEDEN is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

1.00 ORDER PATRIOT

ORDER PATRIOT is a consistent performer who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

FORM FOCUS

WESTERN LEGEND well and made a pleasing chasing debut when losing to Cash Is King (see 2m 4f) at Sandown (2m 4f). He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

3.0 RABBIT HANDICAP CHASE (23.314; 3m) (18 runners)

- 1 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 2 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 3 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
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BETTING: 6-11 Western Legend, 11-4 Cash Is King, 5-1 Pendermoss, 8-1 Mangrove, 12-1 Plastic Spaceman, 10-1 Babil, 10-1 Beau Rolando, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

CASH IS KING is a useful chaser who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

3.0 STONEY NOVICES HURDLE (21.380; 3m) (20 runners)

- 1 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 2 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 3 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 4 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 5 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 6 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 7 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 8 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 9 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 10 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 11 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4

BETTING: 6-11 Western Legend, 11-4 Cash Is King, 5-1 Pendermoss, 8-1 Mangrove, 12-1 Plastic Spaceman, 10-1 Babil, 10-1 Beau Rolando, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

CASH IS KING is a useful chaser who has been in good form since his last outing at Sandown (2m 4f) on January 14. He is a well-made horse with a good temperament and a good record over hurdles and chases.

4.0 DANIEL LAMBERT HANDICAP HURDLE (22.263; 2m 4f) (21 runners)

- 1 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 2 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 3 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 4 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 5 1211-11 CASH IS KING 12 (J. J. Lings) (J. Edwards) 6-11-4
- 6 1211

McEnroe lands the ultimate penalty

By Andrew Longmore
Tennis Correspondent
Melbourne

In the climax of a tennis career lived out on a short fuse, John McEnroe was disqualified from the Australian Open tennis championships yesterday and fined a total of \$6,500 (about £4,000) after abusing officials during his fourth-round match against Mikael Pernfors, of Sweden.

This is the first time in a long career of confrontation that McEnroe has received the ultimate penalty in a singles match and the first time for 27 years that a player has been defaulted from a grand slam tournament.

The final incident came after nearly three hours of play on the centre court at Flinders Park, Melbourne. McEnroe was leading 6-1, 4-6, 7-5, 2-3. Struggling to hold his serve, he threw his racket to the ground and was given a point penalty by Gerry Armstrong, the British umpire, for his second code violation.

Inflamed by the decision, McEnroe called for the tournament supervisor and the tournament referee and, at the end of a heated exchange, just as he was walking back on to the court, he swore at the officials and was immediately defaulted. The crowd, belatedly aware that the match was over, booed and whistled as the officials and the players left the court.

"It was a serious verbal attack on the referee, the supervisor and the chair umpire and there was no question in my mind that he should be defaulted," said Ken Farrar, the tournament supervisor of the International Tennis Federation.

"It was a difficult decision to make and nobody wanted to do it. But action had to be taken to prevent it from happening again."

McEnroe himself said he was unaware that the rules for default had changed for grand slam tournaments and that he had spoken in the heat of the moment. "I don't have anyone else to blame but myself for not knowing the rules. I think it was unnecessary to default me," he said.

"This is like a long story," said McEnroe, three times the Wimbledon champion and now, at the age of 30, trying for his first grand slam singles title for six years. "It has culminated in me being defaulted in a grand slam. I guess it was bound to happen. I don't feel good about it but I can't say that I'm totally surprised by what happened."

"It's not like everyone heard what I said, it was between me and two people, so I think the default was unnecessary. They could have let me off."

Pernfors, who went over to console McEnroe, was as bemused as the crowd. "I'm happy I won, but disappointed at the way it finished. Nothing like this has happened to me before," said the Swede.

The irony of the whole affair is that after stretching the rules to the limit for years, McEnroe was caught out by a change of rule instigated by the players themselves this month for their own Association of Tennis Professionals

supervisor and a chair umpire, and there was no question in my mind that he should be defaulted. I was personally offended by the remarks he made.

"It will be a shame if McEnroe went out of tennis because he is a great talent and the public love to watch him. But, on the other hand, we just can't accept that kind of thing," Farrar, who comes from Massachusetts, has been a Grand Prix supervisor with the Men's Tennis Council (MTC) for the past 10 years before moving to the ITF at the end of last year.

The change cut down the stages to default from four to three.

"If I'd have known about the three-step rule, I probably would still have bounced my racket but I probably wouldn't have said what I did to the guy," McEnroe said.

Even before the start of the match, McEnroe had been out of sorts. Though he took the first set easily, the new, relaxed McEnroe, who had disposed of his first three opponents with the arrogance of old, had disappeared.

At one change-over, he pushed a television camera angrily out of the way and, soon after, stood threateningly in front of the service line judge bouncing the balls on his racket. He was constantly distracted by the crowd, received a time violation, and, during the game in which he was defaulted, had been disturbed by a baby crying. "Give it a drink," he shouted.

McEnroe can in truth have little argument with the punishment. While he will argue strongly that the rules have been made just for him, many players will point out the rules have for a long time been stretched for him as well. He has always walked a tightrope with officialdom and one of the many remarkable things about his career is that for 12 years he managed to avoid the ultimate penalty in the game.

That he should finally do so now was the result of carelessness in not reading the rules properly and complacency in thinking he could get away with it again. Neither can possibly be regarded as justification for abuse of officials and, deep down, McEnroe knows that as well as anyone.

McEnroe's road to default was: First offence - intimidating a lineswoman, warning for unsportsmanlike conduct (end of the third game of the third set).

Second offence - racket abuse, point penalty (in the fourth set, at break point in the sixth game).

Third offence - verbal abuse, match default (in the fourth set, at the end of the sixth game).

The ATP penalty code

The new three-stage penalty schedule, introduced by the Association of Tennis Professionals from January 1 this year and adopted by the International Tennis Federation for grand slams, is: first offence - warning; second offence - point penalty; third offence - default.

McEnroe's road to default was:

First offence - intimidating

THE MAN WHO MADE THE DECISION

Ken Farrar, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) tournament supervisor, confirmed at a press conference that he had instructed Gerry Armstrong, the chair umpire, to issue the default to McEnroe (Andrew Longmore writes).

"The point penalty for racket abuse was upheld, and we started to walk off court. Peter Bellerger [the Australian tournament referee] walked in one direction, and I was walking back the other side. That's when the verbal abuse came up," Farrar said.

"It was a serious verbal abusive attack on a referee, a

supervisor and a chair umpire, and there was no question in my mind that he should be defaulted. I was personally offended by the remarks he made.

"It will be a shame if McEnroe went out of tennis because he is a great talent and the public love to watch him. But, on the other hand, we just can't accept that kind of thing," Farrar, who comes from Massachusetts, has been a Grand Prix supervisor with the Men's Tennis Council (MTC) for the past 10 years before moving to the ITF at the end of last year.

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Armstrong, whose home is near Brighton, recently took up his job with the Association of Tennis Professionals after becoming a professional umpire with the MTC four years ago. He was seconded to work at this tournament from the ATP tour. The son of a former Wimbledon final umpire, he started officiating in 1973 and has umpired a men's singles final himself.

Though still in his early thirties, he is regarded as one of the most experienced and most respected umpires on the circuit.

The problem is that it is getting a little late for reform. He is no longer the *enfant terrible*, he is the *pere terrible*.

McEnroe was fined the maximum of \$5,000 for verbal abuse, \$1,000 for default and \$500 for racket abuse, although he will be allowed to keep his \$26,000 prize-money for reaching the fourth round. The total of fines was \$1,000 short of the amount which would have brought automatic suspension from the next grand slam tournament, the French Open in May. As it is, McEnroe may choose to miss the French in case he accumulates the extra \$1,000 and is suspended from Wimbledon.

Surprisingly perhaps, given his long history of confrontation with officialdom, the only previous occasion McEnroe had been disqualified was in the US Open in 1986 when he and Peter Fleming were defaulted from the doubles for being late. There have been plenty of near-misses, however, and McEnroe himself now admits that he might have changed his ways if he had been thrown out of Wimbledon after his "pits of the world" outburst in his match against Tom Gullikson in 1981.

The last person to be disqualified in a grand slam event was Willy Alvarez, of Colombia, who was ordered out of court during the French Open in 1963. Ilie Nastase came close at Flushing Meadows in 1979: he was disqualified for wasting time, but was reinstated by the tournament referee because of fears that the crowd would riot. Nastase's opponent then was John McEnroe.

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TOMMY HINDLEY



Flash point: Farrar, the tournament supervisor, in confrontation with McEnroe before the player's dismissal yesterday

Rafferty starts on right note

By Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent

Ronan Rafferty yesterday began the decade that he promises to dominate by winning the Coca-Cola golf classic at Royal Melbourne.

He continued where he had left off in 1989, when he finished No.1 in the Volvo Order of Merit, by showing the strength of character to remain composed so pressurising the opposition into defeat.

Rafferty began the final

round one stroke behind Vijay Singh, of Fiji, and Peter Fowler, of Australia, but won the first prize of Australian \$100,000 with a 69 for an aggregate of 278, which is 10 under par.

"Peter really lost it when he took a double bogey at the 16th on which I was able to capitalize," Rafferty said. "It came as something of a surprise because I've not been swinging well."

Rafferty, however, stayed on the straight and narrow when it mattered, hitting not one destructive shot, and he won by two shots from the American, Brian Watts (70). Fowler and Singh each took 73 to share third place with Donnie Hammond, another American, one stroke further back.

Victory for Rafferty supports the theory that he can launch a fresh era in the 1990s. He refuses to chase the dollar, pound or yen. For Rafferty the trick, like Jack Nicklaus and more recently Nick Faldo, is to put the winning of titles ahead of his bank balance.

All of which means Europe's hand has been considerably strengthened since Rafferty will this year for the first time compete in all four major championships beginning with the Masters at Augusta on April 5-8.

Fuzzy Zoeller is the only golfer to have won on his first attempt at Augusta although many observers believe Rafferty to be capable of emulating that feat and completing a unique British treble by following in the footsteps of Sandy Lyle (1988) and Nick Faldo (1989).

Rafferty enjoyed the habit of breaking records as an amateur. He became the youngest British boys champion, the youngest-ever Irish champion and the youngest golfer to play for Great Britain and Ireland in the Walker Cup.

Even so he did not, following his decision to turn professional in 1981, win an official 72-hole tournament on the PGA European Tour until last year when he captured the Italian Open.

LEADERS FINAL SCORES (Australian unless stated): 276: R Rafferty (GB), 69, 68, 68, 68, 270; B Watts (USA), 69, 72, 69, 70, 270; D Hammond (USA), 68, 68, 74, 69, 70, 270; P Fowler (AUS), 71, 70, 67, 70, 70, 270; V Singh (IND), 65, 74, 68, 73, 280; C Warren, 70, 71, 73, 68, 70, 282; J Kuylenstierna, 71, 70, 73, 72, 68, 282; D Davis, 72, 65, 70, 70, 73, 282; J Kuylenstierna, 71, 71, 73, 68, 70, 282; M Harwood, 71, 72, 73, 67.

New television deal for Open

The Open golf championship will be televised by BBC for at least four more years. The R and A and BBC yesterday signed a new four-year deal, starting at St Andrews from July 19 to 22.

Jonathan Martin, head of BBC TV Sport, said: "The Open ranks alongside any of the great British sporting events, and we are delighted to receive a renewed vote of confidence from the R and A."

Board comes down on Moseley with a seventh-month sentence

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Kevin Moseley, the Pontypool lock sent off for stamping during Saturday's rugby union championship game at Cardiff between Wales and France, became the recipient yesterday of a 32-week suspension which reflects the re-emphasized determination of the International Rugby Football Board to take strong disciplinary action against acts of foul play.

A disciplinary panel sitting in Cardiff yesterday morning unanimously upheld the report of Fred Howard, the English referee, who sent off Moseley some thirty minutes into the game. The 26-year-old printer, who has refused to comment, is now barred from taking any part in rugby until August 31, a sentence which is understood to embrace playing, coaching or refereeing at whatever level.

He is the fifteenth player to be sent off in a major international and the fourth from Wales, who now lead the way jointly with Fiji in this unenviable respect; New Zealand and France have two offenders each and England, Ireland and Australia one each. But since Geoff Wheel, the Swansea lock, became the



Moseley: long suspension

first Welshman in 1977 the scale of punishment has increased dramatically from four weeks to nearly eight months.

Moseley aimed a kick at Marc Andrieu, the French wing who was trapped in a ruck, immediately in front of Howard few minutes after Mike Griffiths, the Welsh prop, had been penalised for punching, which has cost Wales three points. Howard had no hesitation sending Moseley to the changing rooms, even though the dismissal took time to sink in for the player.

Yesterday both player and referee appeared before the customary three-man tribunal, chaired by Ronnie

Dawson (Ireland) with Denzil Lloyd representing Wales and Francois Senegas, the secretary-general of the French Rugby Federation. Air Commodore Bob Weighill, secretary of the five nations' committee, also attended.

In a statement the tribunal said they "unanimously upheld the report of the referee and have come to the decision that Kevin Moseley shall not take part in rugby, playing or any other activity relating to the game until Friday, August 31, 1990." This deprives Pontypool of his services not only for the remainder of this season but on their proposed tour to Kenya; likewise if Wales organise a close-season tour he will not be available.

Dawson also pointed out that, at last year's IRFB annual meeting, a directive relating to foul play was specifically promulgated. "Referees at all levels must be strict in dealing with any incidents of foul play and misconduct, and the board also urges unions to take strong disciplinary action on such incidents wherever they occur," the directive stated and yesterday's sentence is one of the fruits of this approach.

"We believe the sentence in this case is justified," Dawson

added. "I would hope that everyone takes note, referees, players and watchers. There is no place in the game for foul play or misconduct. We, the administrators, are determined to get rid of it at all levels and at all opportunities."

There was much debate last summer over incidents of foul play in the second international between Australia and the British Isles, which resulted in a video purporting to show such incidents being sent by the Australian Rugby Union to the four home unions' committees. There were, however, no dismissals but when two Fijians, Noa Nadruku and Tevita Vunolagi, were sent off at Twickenham against England in November both were suspended until March 31.

Of the previous Welsh offenders, Wheel (v Ireland 1977) received four weeks. Paul Ringer (v England 1980) eight weeks and Huw Richards (v New Zealand 1987) one week, which effectively ended his participation in the World Cup. It was a week later that David Codely became the first Australian to be sent off, playing against Wales in the World Cup third-place playoff, when the referee was also Fred Howard.

Howard hopes the lesson will sink in

By Peter Bills

Fred Howard, the English rugby union referee, hopes that his dismissal of Kevin Moseley, the Welsh second forward, will be a signal to both players who commit foul play and referees.

Howard's action, which probably cost Wales victory in the five nations' championship match against France on Saturday, was intended especially to be a guideline to his fellow referees. Moseley received a seven-month ban at a five nations' disciplinary committee meeting in Cardiff yesterday.

Howard said: "I hope this is a sign to players, not only on the international field, that this sort of action will not be tolerated. Maybe some referees will take this lesson on board too. Any stamping around the head cannot be allowed."

Howard was delighted at the

support he received from officers of the Welsh Rugby Union on Saturday night and at yesterday's disciplinary hearing.

"There was not one dissenting voice. The man in charge of Welsh schools rugby told me that the decision had done more for Welsh rugby than any piece of writing or any words of warning could ever have achieved," he said.

"I regard the support I had as absolutely positive. It was superb. I am happy for the game that an example has been made. Moseley's ban is quite a hefty one, but I believe it to be justified."

Howard thought long and hard about the affair on the drive home to Lancashire from Wales yesterday. But, after also studying the video recording of the first-half incident in Cardiff, he said: "I had no doubt whatsoever about my decision at the time. I saw it

clearly and it was an immediate, gut reaction as to what to do."

"I was convinced I had made the right decision at the time and the video has confirmed my view."

Howard described the boot which Moseley, the Pontypool captain, put into Marc Andrieu, the French wing, as totally unnecessary. "Moseley was not part of the pile of bodies there. He weighed it up and decided to stamp. It was quite a vicious stamp around the head region. In those circumstances, you have no second thoughts."

"Andrieu was defenceless and this sort of incident is becoming more of a problem in the game. Some players think they can get away with it, perhaps a first time. But I hope the word goes out that it will not be permitted at any time on a rugby field."

Nevertheless, the English referee was unhappy to be

forced to make such a decision. "It was sad I had to take that action. Players are representing their country: it is not a pleasant thing for a referee to have to do. But other players have got to be protected."

Howard dismissed suggestions that, because Andrieu was not seriously hurt, Moseley might have escaped with a severe warning. He said: "You cannot make decisions based on whether people are injured or not. You make them on the intent and severity of what happened."

Ivor Taylor, the Pontypool match secretary, said: "Fred Howard is a good referee and what Kevin did was wrong. We have no complaints. Mr Howard did the right thing. The ban is a bit draconian but if they are consistent then it will be a good thing for the game."

Nevertheless, the English referee was unhappy to be

IN BRIEF Serfontein poised

Denie Serfontein, born in South Africa but naturalized as an Englishman over 20 years ago, will become president of the Rugby Football Union in 1992 if his selection as junior vice-president is confirmed at the body's annual meeting in July.

Serfontein, aged 56, comes from the Orange Free State but studied in Newcastle and played much of his rugby as a lock for Northumberland, whom he has represented on the RFU committee since 1972.

Scottish first

The 1990 golf match between Oxford and Cambridge universities will be held in Scotland for the first time in the history of the oldest match on the calendar. Cambridge, the holders, have selected the Muirfield Links for the 101st match.

League style

American Major League baseball teams could be on their way to Britain as part of the British Baseball Federation's centenary celebrations. Negotiations are underway to bring the top sides to Wembley stadium for an game at the end of August.

Daho illness

Najib Daho has pulled out of his Commonwealth lightweight title defence against Carl Crook, the Chelley boxer, at Preston on Wednesday, because he has a chest infection. Crook's management are lining up a replacement.

Drug denial

Amsterdam (Reuter) - Karin Kania, the East German former world speed skating champion, denied she had ever taken banned stimulants and said a recent interview in which she seemed to confess to drug abuse had been misinterpreted yesterday. She said she had referred to vitamins and proteins.

Mellow move

Jimmy Mellow, chief scout at St Helens rugby league club, under Alex Murphy, has joined Rochdale Hornets, the second division Leaders.

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